

Mr Wilson promises harsh price controls if the social contract collapses

If the Labour Party's social contract with the trade unions broke down, Mr Wilson said in Cardiff last night, harsh price controls would be imposed: "rogue" employers would be prevented from compensating themselves for wage rises outside the contract's terms by raising the price of their products. He refused to say whether

the latest Ford offer came within the terms of the party-unions agreement. Speaking in Bolton, Mr Heath said that on Thursday the electorate had to decide between national unity or a socialist state—probably for ever. If people voted socialist because they feared political strikes, democracy would be dead.

Onus for rises to rest with firms

From Hugh Noyes
Cardiff
Mr Wilson said last night that harsh price controls would be the last line of defence for a Labour government if the social contract with the trade unions collapsed.

At a press conference in Cardiff, he said there had been suggestions in recent months that if the social contract were successful price controls would become less harsh.

But although the Prime Minister refused to say last night whether he had an ultimate deterrent to massive wage increases, it was clear that the Labour leaders are thinking in terms of controlling wage increases by preventing employers from compensating themselves by raising the price of their products.

Mr Wilson refused to say whether the new Ford offer was within the social contract. But he promised a statement on this as soon as the complicated package had been studied by the Department of Employment.

Mrs Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, and Mr Healey, the Chancellor, were now looking closely at the price control situation, Mr Wilson said. If there was a rush of huge wage offers by "rogue employers" outside the social contract the first line of defence would be talks with the unions and firms concerned by the Trades Union Congress and the Confederation of British Industry. The firms and the unions would be warned

that the social contract was being put in peril. Mr Wilson continued: "I am assuming that employers are not philanthropists and that they want to make profits. If they were really going to force up wages, just for the hell of it, they would lose out on their export markets and if they were going to charge more on the home market they would simply be caught by price control and would bankrupt themselves."

Later in Bristol, Mr Wilson denounced the Conservatives as the party of broken promises. Ford was "disturbing", Mr Roy Jenkins agreed last night

that the news about the Ford offer and the miners was "disturbing" (Peter Evans writes from King's Lynn). He had been asked by a questioner if he felt the unions were aware that unemployment was an alternative to the social contract and if they could not discipline their members.

He replied that neither in the case of Ford nor the unions was it a final settlement. "We cannot pronounce on whether the outcome is within the social contract until we see what emerges."

Broadly speaking, unions had won disputes because they had had public opinion behind them.

Offer breaks contract: Mr Healey, the Chancellor, agreed yesterday that the Ford offer was "on the face of it, contrary to the social contract". During a BBC interview he added that no settlement had yet been reached, and he supposed "the Ford company would justify their offer under the social contract". "Indeed, I understand that they have done so on the grounds that the three-day week and the two years of Conservative compulsory wage controls left them desperately short of labour and this agreement would also lead to greater labour efficiency."



Mr Richard Nixon leaves Long Beach hospital, California, in a wheelchair after 11 days of treatment for phlebitis. Report, page 7.

No sign of food price inflation slackening

By Hugh Clayton

Food price inflation shows no sign of easing, the Institute of Grocery Distribution said yesterday. Lord Trenchard, president of the institute, said early returns for September showed an annual rise of 20 per cent, after an 18 per cent increase confirmed for August.

"Clearly food price inflation has continued at the rate of 18 per cent," he said. He described the institute as "the independent centre collator of facts and figures for the whole United Kingdom food industry."

Figures based on the retail price index in the first eight months of this year show that at the end of each month the rise over the corresponding month in 1973 was higher than the comparable monthly rise between that year and 1972.

Dr J. A. Resumot, senior economics officer of the institute, said it was unwise to draw sweeping conclusions from the figures for the eight months of the year. But it was positively misleading to calculate an annual rate of increase by comparing the figures of consecutive months.

"We felt that there was misunderstanding about the movement of food prices," he said. "We thought that putting out these figures might help to clarify it."

No sugar subsidy: Sugar price rises resulting from EEC adjustments this week will not be subsidized, the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection said last night. This means that rises of 1p and 2p on 2lb bags of refined cane and beet sugar will be passed on to consumers in the next fortnight.

The department added that no decision had been reached about a subsidy to cover the rise agreed by the Government on cane sugar from Guyana, equivalent to 2p or 3p a lb ex-refinery. Tare and Lyle, the largest cane refiners in Britain, said they had begun to process shipments from Guyana.

Oil loan timing 'fishy', Mr Jenkin says

By Margaret Drummond

Suggestions that the announcement of a massive financing package for North Sea oil development earlier this week had been stage managed by the Government as a prelection play were made yesterday by Mr Patrick Jenkin, the Conservative spokesman on energy. He said that there was "something fishy" about the timing of the loan, a \$250m package organized by the International Energy Bank consortium for development of the Piper field.

He said: "Labour ministers are claiming that the announcement of the loan goes to show that there is no real basis for suggestions that the Government's White Paper on nationalization is discouraging the implementation of the oil production programme." But Mr Jenkin suggested that the Department of Energy had given certain assurances to the banking syndicates. "If it were the case, he said, 'it blows sky high their claim that nationalization is not interfering with offshore oil development'."

It is believed that the financing arrangements, which took the form of a limited recourse credit to Thomson Piper Petro-

Man is charged after Blydon double killing

Northumbria police said last night that a man had been charged with murdering two sisters whose bloodstained bodies were found in the back room of a Blydon optician's shop yesterday morning.

The police did not name the man, who they said would appear in court today. Miss Mary Armstrong, aged 18 and her sister, Mrs Margaret Whitfield, aged 22, mother of an 18-month-old baby, lived with their mother in the village of Crawcrook, near Blydon. They worked as receptionists for Mr Harris Cohen, an optician, in Tyne Street, Blydon.

Police were called after Mr Cohen went to the shop and later called for help at an insurance office.

Six hurt in DC6 runway crash

Six passengers were taken to hospital after the nose wheel of a Belgian DC6 airliner collapsed at Southend airport shortly before take-off last night. The aircraft finished nose-down on the runway. No one was seriously hurt. The 100 passengers were Belgians on their way home after spending the day shopping in London.

Director of labour agency accused

Mr Ronald Jeffery Carr, aged 55, of Plough Lane, Purley, Surrey, managing director of Labour Force Ltd, of South Norwood, London, is to appear at Bow Street court today charged with possessing instruments of forgery and facsimile signature stamps to defraud the Inland Revenue.

The agency is one of the largest labour agencies in Britain and has offices in New York and Hongkong.

Sir Christopher finds Australia wants Britain to stay in EEC

From Roger Berthoud
Brussels, Oct 4

Australia and New Zealand have adjusted their trade to the enlargement of the European Economic Community, and would not welcome Britain's withdrawal. This was the clear impression left by Sir Christopher Soames, vice-president of the Commission responsible for external affairs, when he summed up a four-week visit to Australasia and four South-East Asian countries at a press conference in Brussels today.

The Labour Party's conviction that the terms of Britain's EEC entry gave the Commonwealth a poor trade deal does not, on Sir Christopher's evidence today, seem to be shared by the Labour Governments in Wellington and Canberra, or by Asian leaders.

In Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia and the Philippines, Sir Christopher found appreciation for the much more outward-looking approach of the EEC since Britain joined. This was coupled with an awareness that no single country could give them either a big enough market or enough assistance, while the Community could. They attached considerable political as well as commercial importance to developing relations with the EEC.

Australia and New Zealand had set themselves on a course of dealing with the Community as a whole, and had adapted their patterns of trade accordingly. They do not think this is something they can start and stop at will. They look to continuing what they set out to do," Sir Christopher said.

All New Zealand's plans for trade diversification and expansion were based on their view that the enlarged Community had come to stay. This was taken as implying that the plans might not be reversible should Britain pull out. "They no longer look on themselves as an extension of British farm land with a sacred duty to provide the British with cheap food", Sir

Christopher pointed out. They realized that the days of cheap food were past, and had produced facts and figures to show why the price for butter agreed in the British entry negotiations should be increased. Sir Christopher thought there was a case for a review.

He had told the New Zealanders that the Commission would discuss the matter this month, with a view to making proposals to the Council of Ministers. At present, the New Zealanders were pressing to diversify their outlets and benefit from world prices rather than fulfill their full EEC quota.

Sir Christopher assured them that if any Community regulation was introduced on sheep, as they feared, it would be taken into consideration the interests of major suppliers like New Zealand.

In Australia, the main anxiety was the EEC's ban in July on beef imports. The Australians hoped this would not last a day longer than necessary. Sir Christopher, who admits the ban is embarrassing for the Community, which espouses trade liberalization, explained it had been introduced through force of circumstance, and was intended to be temporary.

The Community would be represented at a meeting of beef exporting countries scheduled by the Australians and fixed for October 15 in Washington.

Both the Australian and New Zealand Governments agreed that from now on there should be regular contacts with the EEC at senior official or ministerial level, on the lines of the Community's present practice, with the United States, Canada and Japan.

With the four members of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), who were joined by Thailand for a ministerial meeting with Sir Christopher in Jakarta, it was agreed that a study group of ASEAN and Commission officials should be set up to discuss the general development of relations with the EEC.

Police right to clear pop site, report says

The action of the Chief Constable of Thames Valley Police in closing the pop festival in Windsor Great Park in August was backed by the Thames Valley police authority yesterday. But two minority reports called for a public inquiry into the action, in which 116 police officers, including 70 police officers, were injured.

The authority's report criticized the Crown Estate Commissioners and called for legislation to provide national standards of control at such festivals. Although supporting the judgement of Mr David Holdsworth, the chief constable, the report said that some of the consequences of the police action were "unfortunate".

Mr Holdsworth's own report to the Home Secretary, together with the authority's comments on it and the minority reports of two authority members, were all published yesterday.

Mr Holdsworth said the "slow and deliberate" operation to break up the festival was successful but a relatively short, violent confrontation with a militant minority of pop enthusiasts received the greatest publicity.

The police authority's report said that when police moved into the festival site on August 25 they were "confronted with a successful operation of deliberately flouting the law. This in our view is something which

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This way lies ruin, Mr Heath declares

From John Winder
Bolton

The electorate had to decide next Thursday between national unity or a socialist state, probably for ever, Mr Heath said at a rally for electors of both Bolton constituencies here last night.

Britain's balance of payments was still heavily in the red and the cost of exports was going up faster than the cost of what our competitors produced. "This way lies ruin. Going on like this there will come a point—there are no ifs and buts about it—when Britain will run out of credit," he said.

Mr Healey firmly refused a questioner's invitation to specify the areas in which, within his November Budget, he means to act to improve the liquidity and profitability of companies. Nevertheless, he came down heavily as an opponent of the theory that demand should be halted to curb inflation.

At one point he said: "There is no evidence that when economies are already working well below capacity, a further deflation of demand will in fact reduce inflation except at levels of unemployment which no democratic country will tolerate."

Then he left no doubt that his Budget will be deflationary, if Labour wins the general election. In his own words: "I shall have to decide very fast after the election—providing, of course, we win—how much reduction is appropriate. Britain following the small stimulus I gave in my July measures."

"I recognize that some action will be required to improve both liquidity and profitability in the business sector, but I will be anxious to direct it in ways which have the maximum impact on investment and exports."

But the scale of the deflation remains to be determined.

Mr Healey defends his full employment policy

By David Wood
Political Editor

The spectre of mass unemployment now emerges all over the world as a danger second only to inflation. Mr Healey, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, said yesterday at Labour's campaign conference in London in pledging himself to a reflationary Budget.

He insisted that, in spite of Mr Heath's interpretation of his views, he did not expect United Kingdom unemployment to rise by the end of next year to so much as one million.

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"One thing I have learnt from my experience in the past seven months (as Chancellor): there is no chance of investment if business expects a general and prolonged recession, however generous the tax incentives. On that, at least, there is no disagreement whatever between me and the CBI. So I must take some further action to avoid this danger."

"How much will depend in part on the autumn forecast I shall receive in the next few weeks, and on my judgment of the effect on confidence abroad."

Mr Healey noted, and called on others to note, that the pound had been exceptionally stable over the past seven months, and served as a factor in the Government's success in reducing the rate of inflation. A substantial net inflow of money was also coming in, and the March borrowing arrangements had not been resorted to.

Continued action, internationally and domestically, contributed to Labour's broad approach to the problem of dealing with unemployment.

Internationally, Mr Healey seemed well pleased with the success he had among finance ministers this week in advocating reflation to avoid the dangers of stagflation, and the "slumflation" Holland had produced a reflationary budget; West Germany had legislated for substantial tax cuts. The United States position would be better known when President Ford announced his economic policy next week.

There were, Mr Healey said, two main dangers "which could lead the world into a slump on the scale of the 1930s, and both arose from the colossal surge of petrodollars, which was likely to amount this year to between

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Karpov believes Fischer does not like chess

Moscow, Oct 4.—Anatoly Karpov, the Soviet chess grandmaster who is at present playing his compatriot, Viktor Korchnoi, for the right to challenge for the world title, believes that Bobby Fischer, the champion, does not like chess and will not defend his crown.

Last June Fischer told the International Chess Federation (FIDE) that he was resigning from the organization over a dispute about the scoring system decided on for the title match next year. However, he still has not decided whether he will defend the championship.

Karpov, who is 23, said in an interview: "Fischer has not played for more than two years and is behaving in such a way that it is certain he does not intend to play the match. He accuses everybody except himself, he does not respect the rights of grandmasters, challenges and FIDE, only someone who does not like chess could operate in the way he does." Fischer became world champion in 1972 after beating the

Russian Boris Spassky in Reykjavik. Karpov is leading Korchnoi 2-0 in the challengers' final and is strongly tipped to achieve the win needed for victory. (Their ninth game was adjourned tonight in an even position.) He said he thought a title match between himself and Fischer would be more interesting than a Fischer-Korchnoi clash.

"Fischer has already defeated all the so-called middle-aged players except Korchnoi, but he has lost to some others," he said. "I think I have very good chances of winning against any of today's grandmasters."

Karpov said that, if he became world champion, either by beating Fischer or if Fischer forfeited his title by refusing to defend it, he would not follow the American example of taking no further part in tournaments.

In any case, he planned to take part in the Soviet championships in December.—Reuter.

'Oil slick found' near lost trawler's last position

From a Staff Reporter
Peterhead

There were unconfirmed reports last night that an oil slick had been found near the last known position of the trawler Trident, which is missing in the North Sea with its crew of seven.

Throughout yesterday an RFA Nimrod, a helicopter and a lifeboat search area. Several fish boxes of the type used by herring vessels were picked up by the Macduff lifeboat.

The 80ft Trident left the herring grounds off the Isle of Man and sailed through the Pentlands Firth, which runs North Sea at 3 pm on Thursday. She stopped and gave assistance to another trawler, the Faithful, which had engine trouble. The Faithful reached Peterhead safely at midnight on Thursday, but the Trident failed to arrive.

Shortly after dawn the search began, and two Shackletons from Lossiemouth air station were called out. Coastguards

said no positive signs of the Trident had been found. The air and sea search will be resumed at first light today.

Peterhead coastguard said last night that the Trident was 18 months old, and was registered in the fishing port. It was equipped fully with radio and radar, and would have withstood the weather in the area comfortably. He believed the usual skipper of the trawler was not on board, and that the Trident was being sailed from the west coast under the command of a colleague.

The Northern Rescue Coordination Centre at Pitreavie, Castle, near Dunfermline, said last night that the sea and air search was concentrated on an area of the Moray Firth about nine miles south-east of Dunfermline Head.

No distress calls or radio communication had been received from the Trident. The weather in the area was poor, with winds veering on gale force.

Rough Day?

Have a little smoothness tonight.

Blended for smoothness—it never varies.

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HOME NEWS

Protestant shot dead and Catholic friend is injured in Belfast

From Robert Fisk Belfast

A Protestant who regularly walked to work with a Roman Catholic friend, and who was to leave Northern Ireland today to rejoin his wife and two children in England, became the latest victim of Belfast's assassination squads yesterday. Mr James Willis was shot dead just before 8 am while talking a short cut to his engineering works. His Catholic friend, who was shot in the chest beside him, was said to be comfortable in the Royal Victoria hospital last night. The two men had just turned into Moonstone Street and entered an alleyway when they were confronted by a man from a revolver. Mr Willis, aged 30, who lived with his mother in the Beersbridge Road area of Belfast, was apparently killed instantly. The shooting took place within 100 yards of the Fiat Engineering Company, where both men worked. The gunman fled in a dark green Cortina which had been seen in the area on the previous two mornings; police believe that the murder had been rehearsed. Mr Willis was presumably shot because of his friendship with the Catholic, who was not named yesterday.

Court told of 'bomb man who lost his nerve'

Judith Theresa Ward, aged 25, the girl accused of killing 12 people in the M62 coach explosion in February, was said at Wakefield Crown Court yesterday, to have told police that the man sent with her to cause an explosion a week later at the National Defence College, lost his nerve. Miss Ward, of Stockport, Lancashire, is charged with murdering 12 people in an Army bus on the M62 at Birkenshaw, Yorkshire, in February. She also faces three charges of causing explosions on the M62, at the National Defence College, Latimer, Buckinghamshire and at Euston station, London. She pleads not guilty. Mr John Cobb, QC, for the prosecution, alleged that before going off by car to plant a bomb at the Defence College, Miss Ward had breakfast of egg and chips. In an interview with police she said: "The man with me lost his nerve and wanted to go back. We had the bomb in the back and knowing the sergeant who made it, it could go off at any time." She said she had driven the car to Latimer. They slept in the car and the next day the man planted the bomb. Mr Cobb read a series of alleged interviews which police had with Miss Ward. Asked who were her accomplices, she replied: "I never wanted people to die. I have said that before. I don't believe in it and never have. I have told you you can't grass on this sort of thing." Told that she was quite safe with the police, she replied: "My family aren't." She was told that "they" normally took revenge on the persons concerned and not their families, and replied: "Like hell, what about the job in Manchester last year?" Asked to tell more about the man she was with before the Latimer explosion, she said: "Knickers. I have told you all I know." When asked by police if she wanted a solicitor, Miss Ward replied: "You can't expect a country to defend you when you've been tried to kill their people." Mr Cobb said: "At the very least, there are the following facts: That she has made confession regarding her participation in all three of these outrages; scientific evidence connects Ward with all three outrages; she was physically present at or near the outrages at which all three outrages were planned and or executed." First prosecution witness was WRAC Private Margaret Mary Blake, who said she acted as escort when Miss Ward was under close arrest after being absent. Miss Ward told her that she had been to Ireland helping people out. "She said she had been blowing places up and things like that. I didn't take much notice. The trial was adjourned until next Monday.

Girl aged 15 says PC tried to strangle her

A girl aged 15 told a jury yesterday that a policeman who offered her a lift in his car had tried to strangle her. She was giving evidence at Winchester Crown Court against Michael Clark, aged 21, of Coxford Close, Southampton, who denies indecently assaulting her. The prosecution alleges that Mr Clark was in uniform when he offered the girl a lift in his own car to a Southampton reception centre where she had arranged to stay. He has since left the force. The girl, cross-examined by Mr Owen Thomas, QC, for the defence, said Mr Clark assaulted her in a car. He asked her, put his arm around her and started to strangle her. She denied she screamed when Mr Clark put his hand in front of her to open the passenger door. "I started screaming when he started strangling me," she said. Miss Ann Townsend, a house-mother at the reception centre, told the jury the girl arrived in a hysterical state. "Her hair was caked in blood." The girl told her: "I got into a car. A policeman was in the car and he hit me and kicked me in the head." PC Michael Hoy said he went to the reception centre and found the girl with her hair covered in blood. She was taken to hospital. PC John Owen said that on the night of the alleged attack Mr Clark had been to see him. They were to be best man at each other's weddings. Mr Clark was his best man, but on instructions from a superior, he was not best man when Mr Clark was married on August 10. The hearing was adjourned until next Monday.

Professor to head Arts Council

Sir Hugh Willatt, secretary-general of the Arts Council since 1968, is to be succeeded by Professor Roy Shaw, director of Adult Education since 1962 at Keele University, when he retires next spring at the age of 65. Professor Shaw is 56. He became a member of the council in 1972 and is chairman of its regional and training committees. He was a member of the planning committee for the Open University and the BBC's General Advisory Council, and founder-chairman of BBC Radio Trent. One of his main preoccupations in adult education has been to extend his work in the arts to people normally indifferent or hostile to it; he sees his work at the Arts Council as a similar effort to extend the accessibility of the arts.

Crown Commissioners' attitude on pop festival criticized

Continued from page 1 society cannot accept and to which a solution must be found before next year. The report sympathized with local residents for the "extreme nuisance" caused by the event. "There can be no doubt about the hostility of the people of Windsor to the event," it said. The Windsor assembly in Windsor Great Park was not an offence, the authority added. At that stage numbers were steadily increasing, many arriving during the evening and night. After careful investigation we reluctantly accept that the festival could not have been stopped at its beginning. It was clearly the chief constable's duty to terminate the festival as soon as he felt that was possible. Having considered all available factors, we consider the chief constable's judgment of timing was justified even though some of the consequences were unfortunate. We feel it would have been better to have given longer and better warning to the campers. "Loudspeakers vans are an unsatisfactory means of communication and the wording used does not commend itself to us," the report added. The police authority found the attitude of the Crown Estate Commissioners equivocal. "There is no doubt that they were totally opposed to the holding of the festival but they did not publicly give unqualified support to the police in their decision to clear the site. "We think the commissioners should have been prepared to spend fairly substantial sums on advance warning publicity and should have erected large temporary 'no camping' signs in the areas to be affected."

opinion the speediest way to establish the rights and wrongs of the situation would be for individuals who feel aggrieved before next year. The authority welcomed Berkshire County Council's decision to set up a special inquiry into the festival and urged the Home Secretary to extend legislation on their organization and control. The report does not dispute that a high proportion of the pop enthusiasts did not regard themselves as seriously breaking the law and said they were perhaps guilty of little more than high spirits and some indignation against authority. But the report added: "However, we are satisfied that there was a deliberate attempt to undermine the law and to confront the police as its own upholders by any means, including force. We regard these activities as unacceptable in a civilized community." The first minority report, by four members of the authority, said it was "beyond doubt that the organizers of the festival encouraged and indeed promoted the use of drugs, including hard drugs such as heroin." The chief constable's report had stated the police were unable to search the festival taking place with the strength at their disposal. If that was so it revealed a serious state of affairs for it meant police found themselves unable to enforce the ordinary laws governing the use of Windsor Great Park. If complaints about the police were true in any substantial degree they disclosed a state of affairs in police organization and control which called for drastic action. If they were in the main untrue, they constituted a series of irresponsible libels on the police for which those responsible were answerable. The four members who signed the report said a thorough and impartial investigation was needed and "we do not regard an investigation by other policemen as meeting this require-

ment." They considered the festival could and should have been prevented. A second minority report, signed by one authority member, Mr Arthur Gillians, an Oxfordshire county councillor, asked why the police were unable to accept assurances about when the festival would end and thus allow the event to peter out. The chief constable had claimed there was a real likelihood of a riot situation in and around Windsor town over the following weekend unless the festival was stopped, but evidence presented related solely to incidents alleged to have occurred in and near the festival site, Mr Gillians wrote. Giving a personal view, he added that the chief constable was persuaded by a mixture of local pressure, press hysteria, and perhaps his own prejudices, which to be honest we all have, to take action against an event because it was so clearly anti-authoritarian. "Sixteen complaints against police had been received. With any other complaints, they were being investigated by officers from the Staffordshire force, under the Police Act, 1964." About 800 policemen were engaged in the operation to clear the site. They moved in when the crowd was likely to be at its smallest after a request to leave over the public address system. At the centre of the site they met "considerable resistance" from militants, who split into two groups. Loudspeakers were used to exhort the crowd to violent resistance, and the extremists drew up lines, with women and children in front of the men immediately facing the police. "At no time was any instruction given to officers to draw truncheons, and there was at no time any form of police charge," Mr Holdsworth says. The final violent confrontation came when police reinforcements were called in and managed to gain control after being met by a hail of full tins of food, bottles and other missiles. There were 45 civilians injured, with one pregnant woman detained in hospital with a bruised abdomen, and seven policemen were still off sick. There were 220 arrests, includ-

ing 44 for alleged assault on the police. The Home Secretary is expected to examine the reports next week, but any decision on whether to set up an inquiry is likely to be delayed by the election. Criticisms made in the report drew immediate responses yesterday. Mr Anthony Barker, an official of the Crown Estate Commissioners, said: "The difficulty the commissioners has had about advance publicity is that they thought it would be counter-productive. Publicity saying 'don't come' might have resulted in more people coming than otherwise. What we are anxious about is what we can do next time rather than last." Mr Rawle, coordinator of the festival, said: "The report is not quite such a whitewash as it might have been, but we still want a public inquiry. Most of what the chief constable said was based on rumour. Why is he allowed to go around acting on rumours, when we have to reply only with facts?" Mr Rawle said he was surprised that the report had not been made earlier. "It feels to me as if the police would be pleased, even if they are not directly calling for it, if a public inquiry was launched. It seems to me that the Home Secretary has little option now but to have a public inquiry." He said that the Release organization had been criticized several times, but it had tried to persuade people not to go to the festival in the first place, and had an obligation to support the people who did go. Mr Rawle said of the report generally: "It does not really say anything; it is just a lot of words." Mr Roger Lewis, an official of Release, said: "We feel Mr Holdsworth's report was fairly predictable, given that it was by the man who conducted the operation. We still stand four-square with the call for a public inquiry and we have a great deal of evidence which we want to present."



Bargemasters and Watermen carrying the coffin of Mrs Dorothea Woodward-Fisher, who once owned a fleet of Lintona lighters, at her funeral at St Margaret's, Lee, yesterday.

Triple killer bitter at job failure, police say

Michael Anthony Brown, who killed three people in Torquay last year, was said to be bitter at his job failure, police say. He was interviewed by police after the murder of a young woman with his 12-bore shotgun before turning the weapon on himself. Police believe he was frustrated by his size—he was less than 5ft tall—by his abnormally boyish appearance, and also by his failure to get a job which he felt his five grammar school "O" levels merited. He wrote poems which reflected his inner turmoil. One found by the police began: "Prejudice, prejudice, prejudice." A police spokesman said that the Torquay social security office had a "bulky file" of correspondence from Mr Brown about his job prospects. "It was obvious from his letters that he was a very educated chap." The spokesman said Mr Brown had been unemployed recently. He lived alone in a one-room flat 300 yards from Roebuck House, where the shootings took place. Neighbours said he was "a perfectly polite man" who could often be heard typing well into the night.

ITN journalists accept improved pay offer and return to work

By Alan Hamilton Labour Staff Independent Television News programmes returned last night after 80 journalists employed by ITN had unanimously accepted an improved pay offer and called off their picket lines. Programmes affected by the stoppage were News at Ten, First Report and the early evening news bulletin. Agreement was reached after the intervention of the Prime Minister and Mr Foot, Secretary of State for Employment, who sent the dispute to the Government's Conciliation and Arbitration Service. The ITN chapel, (office branch) of the National Union of Journalists had rejected an offer of 19 per cent on basic rates. That would have raised minimum salaries between £4,172 and £5,380. Under the terms of yesterday's agreement the offer on basic salaries remains the same, but a range of improved fringe benefits have been added. They include increases in stand-by payments from £5 to £6 a day, maternity leave of up to eight months, and the extension of minimum salary increases to include the night most senior journalists in ITN who were previously excluded. Excesses of 25 per cent were set up a working party on a job-evaluated grading scheme. Union claims for extra holidays, sabbatical leave and a clothing allowance were rejected. A claim for an increase in the London weighting allowance, at present £120, was also rejected, but the union hopes that it may be included in the coming year's forthcoming national negotiations. There was disagreement between the two sides on the value of the extra concessions. The National Union of Journalists said that the total offer would be worth up to 25 per cent in some cases, but the Independent Television Contractors Association, representing the employers, said that the fringe benefits would add no more than 0.8 per cent to the 19 per cent cash offer. Journalists employed by the regional television companies also ended their stoppage.

Diabetic who killed wife put on probation

A man who stabbed his wife through the heart with a carving knife acted with diminished responsibility because he had diabetes, a judge said yesterday. Brian George, 38, of Flatts Crescent, Ambleside, Stourbridge, Worcestershire, was put on probation for three years at Shrewsbury Crown Court for manslaughter. "I am satisfied your responsibility was substantially diminished at the time you committed this awful act by reason of your physical condition, diabetes, and that you were driven to distraction by the marital problems which you faced," Mr Justice Crichton said. Mr Nicholls's plea of not guilty to murdering his wife, Mrs June Nicholls, aged 38, was accepted. He admitted manslaughter through diminished responsibility.

Ford workers threaten to resume strike

By Raymond Perman Labour Staff Press shop workers at Ford yesterday threatened to resume their strike on Monday unless their claim for extra money for working a three-shift system is met in full. The ultimatum was delivered at a mass meeting at the plant, set a deadline for union and company negotiators who were beginning their bargaining for Ford's 55th anniversary. Talks were expected to go on into the weekend. Ford said that negotiations which would normally take weeks had been telescoped into days to try to reach agreement. The offer is the largest in the company's history. It would give 33 per cent increases in basic pay over the next two years. It also includes a 10 per cent increase in overtime pay, a 10 per cent increase in holiday pay, a 10 per cent increase in sick pay, a 10 per cent increase in pension contributions, and a 10 per cent increase in the company's profit sharing scheme. The company also agreed to set up a working party on a job-evaluated grading scheme. Union claims for extra holidays, sabbatical leave and a clothing allowance were rejected. A claim for an increase in the London weighting allowance, at present £120, was also rejected, but the union hopes that it may be included in the coming year's forthcoming national negotiations. There was disagreement between the two sides on the value of the extra concessions. The National Union of Journalists said that the total offer would be worth up to 25 per cent in some cases, but the Independent Television Contractors Association, representing the employers, said that the fringe benefits would add no more than 0.8 per cent to the 19 per cent cash offer. Journalists employed by the regional television companies also ended their stoppage.

Triple killer bitter at job failure, police say

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Petty officer who beat seaman to death jailed

A petty officer whose violence was said to have made seamen lock their cabin doors was jailed for seven years at the Central Criminal Court yesterday for killing a crew member. He beat Seaman John Murray to death after Murray vowed he would make an order. Petty Officer William Grievson, aged 32, of Donwood Crescent, Nottingham, pleaded guilty to manslaughter. His plea of not guilty to murder was accepted. Det Chief Supr Ivor Reynolds, of Scotland Yard, described Grievson as a man of a magnificent physique, a competent and diligent seafarer who tended to be militant. Mr Henry Pownall, for the prosecution, said Mr Murray's refusal to obey orders had brought the chief petty officer to tears and Grievson went into action as most men of the 43,000-ton tanker, British Mariner, in the South Atlantic were listening to the Cup final on the radio. Grievson hit Mr Murray in the face, then used his hands and fist like a pendulum over Mr Murray's face. After Mr Murray had recovered consciousness, he attacked Mr Grievson, who again beat him unconscious. As he lay on the deck, Mr Grievson pushed his foot three times into the man's face. Mr Murray, of Luton, Bedfordshire, died from multiple injuries which had affected his brain. Mr Reynolds, QC, for the defence, said Mr Grievson had only recently been promoted. "This was a situation where a man was too close to many of the crew to keep proper discipline."

London payment up for 140,000 civil servants

By Our Labour Staff Union leaders of 140,000 civil servants in the London area have accepted an offer of increased London weighting allowances from the Civil Service Department. The allowances, which will also be paid to Civil Service industrial employees, will be backdated to April 1. The agreement will increase the inner London allowance from £228 to £410, and the area in which it will be applicable has been extended from a four-mile radius of Charing Cross to five miles. The outer London allowance will be raised from £110 to £260. Like most London weighting settlements, the amount is well in excess of the Pay Board's July recommendation of £400 for inner London and £200 for the outer area. Ancillary workers at 15 major London hospitals walked out yesterday in support of a claim for increases in weighting allowances of £3.70 a week.

Dr Savundra leaves jail

Dr Emil Savundra, the Ceylon-born financier, was released from Wormwood Scrubs prison yesterday after serving six and a half years of a 10-year sentence. He was convicted for the Fire, Auto and Marine insurance fraud but said yesterday he intended to take his case to the Human Rights Court at Strasbourg, because he was innocent.

Eight years' jail for throwing stones at cars

Two men who over a period threw stones at passing cars in a park were jailed for eight years each at St Albans Crown Court yesterday. Robert Allen and Anthony Ling drove along the A10 and A120 near Puckeridge, Hertfordshire, and lobbed stones out of their car window. One motorist suffered a fractured skull and another had 16 stitches in the head. Mr Allen, aged 23, a tree feller, of Barwick near Ware, and Mr Ling, aged 23, a bricklayer of Standon Park, Hertfordshire, pleaded guilty to seven charges of damaging property, one of assault and two of causing grievous bodily harm with intent. Mr Sean Overend, for the prosecution, said the offences took place at night over a four-mile stretch, "as regarded by them as a sport." Mr Clive Iverson, for the defence, said: "It does seem they did not appreciate what they were doing."

Charge withdrawn

The charge against one of six men accused of conspiracy to steal \$1m in travellers' cheques from Heathrow airport was withdrawn at Ealing Court, London, yesterday. The man was Mr Roger Vincent, aged 34, a leader, of Harcourt Close, Egham, Surrey. Five others were remanded until November 14.

Weather forecast and recordings

Weather forecast and recordings section containing two maps of the UK and surrounding regions, and a table of weather data for various locations. The maps show pressure systems and fronts. The table lists weather conditions, sun/moon sets, and temperatures for cities like London, Edinburgh, Glasgow, and New York. It also includes a 'Today' and 'Tomorrow' forecast section with detailed weather predictions and a 'Yesterday' section with a summary of the previous day's weather.

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AVON

HOME NEWS

'Reluctant peer' who turned compulsive gambler goes to jail

Lord Spens, aged 60, described as a "reluctant peer" was jailed for two and a half years at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

Lord Spens, of Lambden, Pluckley, near Ashford, Kent, admitted six charges of fraudulent conversion and theft of funds totalling £151,000.

Mr Stephen Mitchell, for the prosecution, said that during seven years Lord Spens had complete control of the finances of the federation's carpet centre in Regent Street, London, the accounts were not audited.

Judge Christmas Humphreys, QC, told him: "This is stark tragedy. The judge said he was impressed to hear of the 'almost incredible position' in which Lord Spens had been allowed to stand.

The judge said he recognized the situation had been brought about by overwork and lack of proper rest and recreation. In such circumstances Lord Spens had taken to gambling to relieve his boredom.

The judge said Lord Spens had had a fine career, had a fine character and bore a fine name. "This federation was your child," the judge said.

The judge said Lord Spens had been a compulsive gambler. Mr Mitchell said the money, taken between 1968 and 1973, belonged to the constituent members of the federation, which included about 40 carpet companies.

The federation, which aimed to promote the woven carpet industry on a national level, employed as accountants, Fuller, Jenks and Beecroft, of which Lord Spens was a partner.

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GENERAL ELECTION

Mr Jenkins sees EEC renegotiation in new light

By Our Political Editor

Mr Jenkins, the Home Secretary and Labour's leading Europeanist, admitted yesterday that he now felt he was wrong two years ago in not realizing "there was a substantial scope for renegotiation" of the terms of United Kingdom membership of EEC.

Asked to comment on his attitude to a referendum, Mr Jenkins said that the renegotiation, while far from complete, showed signs of going well. Mr Callaghan, the Foreign Secretary, had made considerable progress, and "I am optimistic, without prejudging the result, that a position will come out which will be more favourable to this country and more helpful to the Community generally."

It had been an advantage that the Labour Government had approached the renegotiation at a moment of flux in the Community: "I am a strong supporter of the renegotiations and believe they have a real chance of success."

He had always made clear he did not like the device. It would be in grave difficulties if it were slipped in as a feature of British life. But "I accept on a broader plane the desirability of reconciling British public opinion to membership of EEC."

Mr Jenkins made clear that he would not leave politics if the people's verdict in the ballot box was against EEC membership. He would resign from the Cabinet: "I am saying that if to my regret the British people decide, as they are absolutely right to do—just as I believe it is right to say in Europe, I do not think it would be sensible with all the responsibility of a member of the Cabinet to stay in the Cabinet."

There would not be, he said, an abusive frontal attack on SNP candidates. The Tory strategy was more likely to be directed at forcing the nationalists to go into the finer details of their policies.

Mr Taylor admitted that the poll had come as a surprise to the Tories. "Let us not kid ourselves. It is bad for us," he said. The party did not accept, however, that any opinion poll could be taken as a reliable guide to the election result.

Even so it was bad for both Tory and Labour candidates, particularly in the 17 seats where the nationalists came second in the February election. But the Tories took some reassurance from the signs that Labour support, which had been standing rock-solid, had slipped. Labour appeal: Mr Jack Jones, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, speaking at a Labour Party meeting in Falkirk last night, appealed to members of the Scottish National Party who claimed to be socialists: "Come back to Labour and fight with us against Toryism."

At a press conference Mr Taylor admitted that the result of the poll was a matter of serious concern. In the final week of the campaign the Tories would need to change their emphasis in their campaign strategy. Up to now they had concentrated on pointing out the dangers of a socialist minority government. They would now have to concentrate on putting across to the electorate the consequences of Scotland becoming independent.

Mr Ashe was accused concerning explosions at Hull and Hall Green in July and Sparkbrook in August; Mr Madigan concerning the Smethwick explosion and with placing a bomb in Handsworth in April; Mr Cookey concerning the Hall Green explosion and one in Balsall Heath in August; Mr Small concerning the Hall Green and Balsall Heath explosions; Mr Blake with placing an explosive in Sheldon in July; and Mr Duffy with placing a bomb in Birmingham city centre in April. Reporting restrictions were not lifted.

A magistrates' fine of £10,000 on Fleetwood, of Hull, for spilling oil in Swansea docks was reduced to £5,000 on appeal at Swansea Crown court yesterday.

A line of 20 taxis which held up traffic in Peterborough yesterday in protest against shortage of ranks ended at the town hall, where the drivers handed in a petition to the city council.

Mr Gareth Daniel, the union president, made the request in a letter to the proctors. He suggested the examination Schools, in High Street, or the Lilyford Road sports stadium.

"Once again the start of term accommodation crisis is upon Oxford University. This year the situation seems worse than ever, with more homeless students and less accommodation to house them," he said.

The OUSU proposal would not provide a permanent solution, but it would at least guarantee that homeless students would have a roof over their heads while they looked around for somewhere more permanent.

Mr Dermot Roaf, senior proctor, said that the Hebdomadal Council, the university cabinet, would consider the request on Monday, and would probably have a report from the



A balancing act by Mr Heath during lunch with Mr Winston Churchill, Conservative candidate for Stretford, in Manchester yesterday.

Mr Callaghan sticks to realities

By Arthur Osman

Mr Callaghan, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was a late starter in the campaign because of an official visit to the United States, where he was rota chairman of the Security Council.

It was a journey which has since helped to flesh out his great detail speeches he has made in the north and the Midlands. It enabled him to stress in terms of the interdependence of the world today and the urgent need for a wider perspective to be shown in Britain of world events.

Mr Callaghan, a seasoned performer, his jetting record by his home to the hustings, made the transition from Presidential talks to downtown Cardiff in the hinterland of the docks with more resilience and aplomb than most would have shown in the circumstances.

This was also true of his first public meeting in a local school in the Grangetown district a few hours later. It was

attended by four children, sticky-fingered but well behaved, and 12 adults, all of them party stalwarts. It turned into quite a cosy affair, more a meeting of friends than a campaign opening, but Mr Callaghan, seated at ease and employing the technique of a fireside chat, laid down for himself and those present the guidelines he has since followed in all his speeches.

These have not deviated from the seriousness of Britain's economic position and the critical, but not hopeless, task that faces the country if it wants and has the will to succeed. There has been no windy rhetoric.

As a member of 30 years' standing in Cardiff, and being a familiar figure, Mr Callaghan does not draw large crowds, but elsewhere attendances have been good and audiences responsive.

His warning on the danger of wage claims was spelled out clearly at Brighton when he said: "The people of this country, if they want to overcome inflation, will not pass their wage claims at a special session at an exorbitant level. If they do, it is no good expecting the Government to cure inflation. It is a two-way traffic, a bond between us. It is also a test of democracy that we should do it, and I believe we will."

The EEC has actually occupied a good deal of his attention and time, and has added a wealth of factual detail to speeches for people who have confessed they are still confused about the issues.

In attempting to widen horizons and give a reality to many aspects of the election Mr Callaghan has repeatedly stressed "we are more than ever one world" with nations depending more and more on each other.

Inevitably the social contract has been a dominant feature. His warning on the danger of wage claims was spelled out clearly at Brighton when he said: "The people of this country, if they want to overcome inflation, will not pass their wage claims at a special session at an exorbitant level. If they do, it is no good expecting the Government to cure inflation. It is a two-way traffic, a bond between us. It is also a test of democracy that we should do it, and I believe we will."

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Only one in four wants coalition, poll shows

Only one in four voters favour a coalition government drawn from the three main parties as the best method for dealing with the country's problems. More voters seem to prefer a Labour government to any alternative. These are some of the conclusions of a special survey for The Times, carried out by Opinion Research Centre.

There is relatively little enthusiasm for a Conservative government and even less for a Liberal/Conservative government. The accompanying table gives the percentages expressing a preference for each of the various alternatives.

The confidence of Labour supporters in their own party, presumably as a result of Mr Wilson's firm assertion that he will not consider cooperation with any other grouping is striking and accounts for almost all those opting for a Labour Government.

Conservatives, on the other hand, are divided between a full coalition, a Liberal/Conservative compact, and a Conservative government.

The survey also asked voters to nominate the man most suitable to lead a coalition. All answers were spontaneously given without any prompting or suggestion of possible candidates.

It is interesting that neither Mr Wilson nor Mr Heath had much appeal outside his own party, whereas Mr Thorpe's support was more widely spread, as was Mr Powell's among the small minority who thought he would be best.

All figures given in the tables are percentages. The survey was based on a representative quota sample of 1,555 electors, interviewed throughout Britain between September 26 and 28.

Q. Which one of these would you most like to see as the result of the general election?

Table with 5 columns: All voters, C, Lab, Lib, Uncommitted. Rows include Lab government, Coalition government of all three parties, Cons government, Government of Cons and Libs, Government of Lab and Libs, None of these/Don't know.

Q. If we were to get a coalition government, who do you think would be the best man to lead it?

Table with 5 columns: All voters, C, Lab, Lib, Uncommitted. Rows include Mr Wilson, Mr Thorpe, Mr Heath, Mr Whitelaw, Mr Powell, Mr Jenkins, Mr Callaghan, Sir Keith Joseph, Mr Carr, Sir Alec Douglas-Home.

Scottish Tories to make late change in strategy

From Ronald Faux, Glasgow

The Scottish Conservative Party is to change its strategy during the final week of the election campaign to meet the challenge of the nationalists.

This decision was announced yesterday in Glasgow by Mr Edward Taylor, a vice-chairman of the party, after an ORC poll showed support for the Scottish National Party standing at 28 per cent and the nationalists as the second most popular party in Scotland. This is a position previously firmly held by the Tories.

At a press conference Mr Taylor admitted that the result of the poll was a matter of serious concern. In the final week of the campaign the Tories would need to change their emphasis in their campaign strategy. Up to now they had concentrated on pointing out the dangers of a socialist minority government. They would now have to concentrate on putting across to the electorate the consequences of Scotland becoming independent.

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Fight for 39 vital marginals: Part 12

Chorley

Description: Made up of two medium-sized industrial towns plus a large agricultural area stretching southwards from the Preston boundary, this has always been regarded as a marginal constituency, though seldom perched on quite such a knife-edge as was created by February's result.

Both Chorley itself and Leyland are somewhat utilitarian in character, although these days Leyland appears to be the more dynamic of the two, with the spending power emanating from the famous BLMC lorry and bus works, which itself is smart new houses, a spacious civic centre, and a well-appointed trades and labour club.

BLMC's Leyland Motors is the biggest single employer in the area, with about 10,000 families dependent on it. There are some residual units of the cotton industry which once formed the mainstay of Chorley's economy, but most earnings come from a mixed bag of small firms serving the Royal Ordnance factory at Euxton which employs about 2,000 people.

February result: Electorate 74,349. Rodgers, G. (Lab) 25,440. Monks, Mrs C. M. (C) 25,035. Overall Mrs N. (L) 12,872. Lab majority 405.

Assessment: The nature of the constituency stands to be affected by the plans for the canal, Lancashire New Town, and four spinners' wards from Preston to Leyland. A public inquiry on the master plan is fixed for November 5.

Mr Barry Porter, the Conservative challenger, thinks that because the 'project' differs so widely from previous new town schemes there is a case for it to be handled by the elected authorities rather than a development corporation, while Mr George Rodgers, who won for Labour in February, is in favour of the project.

The vote for Mrs Neva Orrell, the Liberal candidate, is vital to the result. She polled 20 per cent of the vote in February. Chorley is another of the seats selected by the Campaign for a More Prosperous Britain organization, financed by Mr Tom Keene, who is prepared to lose some 30 deposits to persuade people not to vote Labour. A couple of hundred votes scattered by Mr Harold Smith from disgruntled protesters could affect the outcome.

The attitude of the farmers and farmworkers could also affect the result. Mr Porter is trying to assuage them with the suggestion that a five-year rather than a 10-year strategy for agriculture would help them, and Mr Rodgers says that he has found a definite movement to support of EEC renegotiation and a referendum.

Assessment: All eyes will be on the count at Keighley, where, for eight out of nine postwar elections, the party that has won the seat has won the election. With an electorate of 54,284 and the count on the Thursday evening, nobody should be in suspense for long. Keighley is regarded as a typical seat with a mixture of heavy and light industry and no particular political axe to grind.

A recent poll conducted in the town showed that 21 per cent of the electors, calculated on a sample of 500, would support Liberal policy to combat inflation, 39 per cent were for the Labour policy, and 31 per cent favoured the Conservative proposals.

This time there are five candidates. Besides the three main parties, the National Front is represented by a local builder, Mr George Wright, and the Campaign for a More Prosperous Britain has Mr William Deakin as its candidate.

It could be that the National Front and the CFMPB will make all the difference in a constituency which returned a majority of 878 for the Labour candidate, Mr Robert Cryer, in February.

Some Conservatives have noted with alarm that Miss Joan Hall, who won the seat from Labour in 1970 and came second last February, is not standing. It is reported that she is still working for the Conservatives, but not in Keighley.

February result: Electorate 51,234. Cryer, G. R. (Lab) 18,597. Hall, Miss J. V. (C) 17,717. Whittaker, W. E. (L) 7,820. Binnis, J. (Soc Dem) 348. Lab majority 878.

Labour

George Rodgers (Lab), a welder, active in the Labour Party and the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers since he left the Royal Navy at end of the war. Chairman of Mr Wilson's Leyland constituency party until his election in February. Former chairman of Heywood Labour Party.

Conservative

Barry Porter (Cons), solicitor practising in Birkenshaw. Educated at local primary school, Birkenshaw School, and University College, Oxford. Birkenshaw councillor from 1967 to 1974, and chairman of planning committee. Fought Newton-le-Willows last February and Leyland, Scotland Exchange, at a by-election in 1971. Married, with four children.

Liberal

Neva Orrell (Lib), housewife and former deputy head teacher of primary school. Educated at Wigan High School for Girls and Brighton Municipal Training College. Former member of Leyland Urban District Council. Represents Leyland area of Lancashire County Council.

CFMPB

Harold Smith (CFMPB), the Campaigner for a More Prosperous Britain candidate, is supported by Mr Tom Keene, an Oldham industrialist. Stood against Mr Wilson in February. A bachelor, he is standing simultaneously as a candidate in 12 constituencies.

Labour

Robert Cryer (39), technical college teacher. Educated for Keighley in February. Educated at Salt High School, Shipley, and Hill University. Member of Keighley Borough Council since 1971. Member of the Transport and General Workers' Union, and the Association of Teachers in Technical Institutions.

Conservative

Cyril Taylor (39), educated at St Marylebone GS, Trinity Hall, Cambridge, and Harvard Business School. In 1970 general election was full-time personal assistant to Mr Spencer Le Marchant, MP in High Peak constituency. Chairman of American Institute for Foreign Study, fought Huddersfield, East, in 1974. Married to an American, one child.

Liberal

Margaret Holmstedt (31), part-time university lecturer, translator and writer. Swedish-born. Educated at Stockholm University. Miss Holmstedt is a former parliamentary secretary, Swedish Liberal Party. Attached at Swedish Embassy, London. President, World Federation of Liberal and Radical Youth, 1968-70. Wife of Michael Steed, Liberal candidate for Manchester, Central, in last election.

National Front

George Wright (47), director of building company. Former candidate in local elections. Keighley man, educated at Belle Vue GS, Bradford. Married, three children.

CFMPB

Charles William Deakin (35), haulage contractor, candidate for the Campaign for a More Prosperous Britain. Married, with four children. In February campaigned for Mr John Birt, Social Democratic and former Labour MP for Keighley, 1964-70. In past years assisted Conservative campaign.

Mr Powell likens Tories to Hitler on Ulster

By Our Political Editor

Mr Enoch Powell, Unionist candidate for Down, South, last night described the last Conservative government's actions over Ulster as "almost like Hitler standing over the Czechs in 1938".

Mr Powell was being asked at a public meeting in Downpatrick, Co Down, how he reconciled his opposition to the Ulster Unionists. He said that the Ulster Unionists, Mr Wedgwood Benn, Secretary of State for Industry, said in Bristol that the Labour manifesto made its simple demands in the language of the moderates, but the demands being inflated because they would shift the balance of power in favour of working people and their families.

Mr Carr, the shadow Chancellor, accused the Labour Party of playing the national crisis down. In many important respects the crisis was getting worse, he said at Carshalton. "We shall not overcome it unless we realize the seriousness of our situation and are prepared for a few years to accept sacrifices."

The third-force parties now attack majority

By Professor Richard Rose

Third-force parties now attract the largest section of popular support in Scotland according to a special poll by Opinion Research Centre published in The Times yesterday.

Together, the Scottish National Party and the Liberals are favoured by 39 per cent of the electorate, 1 per cent more over the poll than the Labour Party. The Conservatives, with 22 per cent, have 11 per cent less support than in last February's ballot.

Because the number reporting uncertain voting intentions is increasing and because interviews were conducted in Scotland from September 26-29, there is the opportunity for the present profile of preferences to change significantly before election day.

At a minimum the findings show that Scotland is closer to a four-party system than a two-party system. In February, Labour and Conservative candidates between them won 70 per cent of the Scottish vote. The latest ORC figures indicate that today the two parties are supported by 60 per cent of Scottish electors.

Liberal odds cut

The Liberal Party was backed down yesterday with Joe Coral from 100 to 1 to 66 to 1. Labour remains at 1-3, and the Conservatives at 9-4.

BBC chief answers Liberal complaint

By Our Political Staff

Sir Charles Curran, director-general of the BBC, yesterday replied to the complaint made by Lord Avebury, campaign manager of the Liberal Party, about the short time allocated to him in a joint television programme with the Government and Conservative whips.

Sir Charles did not dispute that Lord Avebury's contribution to the discussion was shorter than the others. But he added: "It was shorter than it need have been since in a discussion of this kind a participant may well come in of his own volition and, indeed, he should do so if he feels he is being overlooked."

There was no intention, Sir Charles said, to deny Lord Avebury a fair part in the discussion.

Keighley

Description: In the valley of the River Aire, a stone's throw from the bleak wadeswep moorland of the Brothcote country, Keighley is a hard urban town founded like so many of its near neighbours on the textile industry which still provides employment for the majority of work-people—about 8,000.

Its industries are unpretentious and are often scaled down versions of those existing in the larger centres. Unemployment is not a great problem, running as it is at 2.8 per cent, the same as the national average.

Two blows have hit Keighley in recent years. The town's single employer, Magnet Joinery, has gone on short-time working for its 1,200 staff, and one mill, a casualty of reorganization in textiles, has had to close, putting 200 out of work.

Spinning is the principal occupation of most Keighley mills. Recently the price of wool has led to restrictions on spinning. Also a shortage of orders has resulted in spinners not committing themselves to work which they may not sell.

On the other hand, the man-made fibre industry has spread to Keighley and other diversified industries include engineering, which employs about 7,000. Distribution trades provide work for 2,000 people. In the service industries there are about 3,500 employees, including 1,400 at the impressive new Airedale General Hospital.

The Peter Black company, which makes plastic bags and slippers, employs some 1,100 people and maintains a healthy export trade.

The Keighley textile industry includes companies that scour wool and produce "tops", spin and yarn, and weave it into cloth. Unfortunately, they are not all owned by the same people so the benefits of full integration may not be realized.

February result: Electorate 51,234. Cryer, G. R. (Lab) 18,597. Hall, Miss J. V. (C) 17,717. Whittaker, W. E. (L) 7,820. Binnis, J. (Soc Dem) 348. Lab majority 878.

Assessment: All eyes will be on the count at Keighley, where, for eight out of nine postwar elections, the party that has won the seat has won the election. With an electorate of 54,284 and the count on the Thursday evening, nobody should be in suspense for long. Keighley is regarded as a typical seat with a mixture of heavy and light industry and no particular political axe to grind.

A recent poll conducted in the town showed that 21 per cent of the electors, calculated on a sample of 500, would support Liberal policy to combat inflation, 39 per cent were for the Labour policy, and 31 per cent favoured the Conservative proposals.

This time there are five candidates. Besides the three main parties, the National Front is represented by a local builder, Mr George Wright, and the Campaign for a More Prosperous Britain has Mr William Deakin as its candidate.

It could be that the National Front and the CFMPB will make all the difference in a constituency which returned a majority of 878 for the Labour candidate, Mr Robert Cryer, in February.

Some Conservatives have noted with alarm that Miss Joan Hall, who won the seat from Labour in 1970 and came second last February, is not standing. It is reported that she is still working for the Conservatives, but not in Keighley.

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University building sought for homeless students

From Our Correspondent, Oxford

Oxford University Students' Union has called for a large university building to be made available for students who may be homeless when term starts on October 13.

Mr Gareth Daniel, the union president, made the request in a letter to the proctors. He suggested the examination Schools, in High Street, or the Lilyford Road sports stadium.

"Once again the start of term accommodation crisis is upon Oxford University. This year the situation seems worse than ever, with more homeless students and less accommodation to house them," he said.

The OUSU proposal would not provide a permanent solution, but it would at least guarantee that homeless students would have a roof over their heads while they looked around for somewhere more permanent.

Mr Dermot Roaf, senior proctor, said that the Hebdomadal Council, the university cabinet, would consider the request on Monday, and would probably have a report from the

University building sought for homeless students

From Our Correspondent, Oxford

GIVE SHELTER

Homelessness isn't something that goes away.

This year, thousands of people, many of them children are in temporary accommodation because they are homeless.

To a large extent these homeless are also without hope. Shelter counsels, fights and works on their behalf.

And every year at about this time we put our hands out and ask for your direct assistance. This week, October 5-12, is Shelter Week.

Through your contribution in this one week we can continue our work throughout the year, fighting for better housing, fighting on behalf of the homeless.

A lot more families will be housed if you help.

SHELTER, National Campaign For The Homeless.

I enclose £_____ to help the homeless.

Mr./Mrs./Miss _____

Address _____

Please tick if you require a receipt

Thank you for your contribution. Please send it to SHELTER,
86 Strand, London WC2R 0EQ.

REGISTERED CHARITY—NO. 265710 TMS/3

GENERAL ELECTION

Mr Heath spells out the reasons that have led him to propose a government dedicated to national unity

By George Hurchinson

As the election campaign enters its last decisive days it becomes vital to understand the distinction between Mr Heath and those who are opposing his call for a government of national unity.

Most important of all, perhaps, is an understanding of what he means and hopes to achieve by a national programme, a broad-based administration (a government of all the talents, if you like), and the reasons that have led him to make this grand, historic offer.

These reasons are fundamental to our society as he perceives it. They need and deserve to be clarified.

In a lengthy and rather philosophical conversation, Mr Heath appeared far from being dismayed by the opinion polls, foretelling defeat and disaster.

He believes that he is going to win, as in 1970. "I may say, has a deep sense of destiny, and his instinct for the British people, their mood, their anxieties, their hopes and aspirations, has proved true before."

"The crisis we are facing," he said, "is of a kind and magnitude we have not had to face probably since 1931 and certainly not since 1945."

A great deal has happened in the campaign to bring home to people the real nature of the crisis.

"The Times has been talking about it for a long time. But it is only now that we are getting through to the great mass of the people and influencing people whose reactions to poli-

cies are so important in a tremendous internal job for two or three years to come.

"The significance of the crisis is not being able to improve the standard of living—already the standard of living in many groups in the country is falling—and not being able to improve their immediate aspirations, posing problems of getting people to understand the facts and how we are going to get the policies to deal with the crisis and how they are fair as between groups in the community. This is a tremendous job."

Of the groups within the community who "want to use their strength, and whose actions would be considered unfair by the rest," he said: "Once you get into this situation, then everyone is attempting to follow, and you get into difficulties of dealing with inflation and all its consequences."

That leads him, with reflective logic, to his national unity theme. "In this sort of crisis we ought to set out to get the widest possible measure of agreement between those in Parliament on the measures which we take and the explanations which we give to the people."

This is the way my thought processes run. Those of us who have experienced politics over the last 10 to 15 years in high office realize that we cannot go

on in this country in a situation where every change of government means a reversal of policy. No country can survive on that basis.

"There was a time in British politics when there was a considerable area of political ground which was widely accepted. Now we have a situation in which that is not so, not even in defence or foreign policy, if one looks on Europe as a major item of foreign policy."

"Nor is it true in a large part of the social sphere, including education. After all, the 1944 Education Act was the joint work of Rab Butler and Chuter Ede."

It was not true either on the pensions front. There had been five different pensions schemes in 10 years under different governments. None of them had been implemented because the time-phasing of the schemes was greater than the normal lifetime of modern governments. The same is true of industrial relations policy and industrial regional policy.

"These are things," Mr Heath said, "which affect individual citizens deeply. More and more people are realizing it. It is this that makes them so frustrated by the political institutions. It is not that they are frustrated by the democratic system but by the failure of the system to grow to a sufficient extent to produce the

answer for them in their individual lives."

What had happened during the past decade was that on great issues of policy such as Europe and incomes and prices, governments had overthrown in opposition everything they had been doing in government.

"At least we have not done that in the Conservative Party," he said. "We have not done it in our European policy or in incomes and prices policy. We have not rushed away and overthrown everything we were doing."

What Britain needs, he repeated, is "the widest possible measure of agreement on how to deal with the crisis."

How could that be achieved? Only by a Conservative majority because that was the only party prepared to take a broad national view.

"The Labour Party are fighting on a divisive basis and saying there is no meeting point between them and the rest of the community. The Liberal Party are indecisive: they say that if there is a catastrophe they will consider the matter."

"The leader of the Labour Party in opposition would never support us in trying to get industrial peace. People have forgotten that all too quickly. He would never urge the miners to accept discussion and a rational approach."

Turning to the formation of a government of national unity, he said: "The government machine does need to have a

blood transfusion of people who have experience in dealing with these practical matters. We brought them in last time at lower levels and achieved a considerable amount."

The present crisis was such that an administration needed people with experience and expertise. There was a great deal of executive work to be done in implementing policies and getting drive behind them.

"The inertia of the machine is so great and we have so little time that we really need this desperately in the governmental machine, and people outside realize they have to make sacrifices and help for a period."

Speaking with emphasis, Mr Heath continued: "It is not my purpose to break up parties. If the leader of the Labour Party wishes to help but is not prepared to join in a coalition or broad-based government, that is their decision and I am not going round the back door to tempt individual members of the Labour Party."

If Mr Heath succeeds in his aims, most of the prospective newcomers to his Administration would serve not as ministers but as advisers to this or that department or as executive members of government agencies. The ministerial appointments would be of limited number and would inevitably entail the creation of a few life peerages, although some likely recruits already belong to the House of Lords.

WEST EUROPE

M Chirac introduces plan to replace oil as energy source

From Charles Harrove Paris, Oct 4

The weather this autumn is definitely not on the side of the Government. Yesterday was the coldest October 3 in Paris in more than a century.

Frenchmen who were complaining that the Government's energy-saving measures were too inclined to complain that they are too drastic. There is a rush in shops on heating appliances, heavy woolen underweave, and every variety of insulating material. The newspapers are full of practical advice how to keep warm without heating.

M Chirac, the Prime Minister, had the thankless task of persuading a sparsely attended National Assembly (though it was not cold in the Chamber) that there was no alternative but to grin and bear it.

At a point in the discussion a Gaullist deputy interrupted to say that the temperature in the Chamber was 25° C (77° F). M Chirac introduced a bill on fuel saving providing for the limitation of heating to 20° C (68° F) in offices, shops, and homes, the control of the distribution of fuel if the situation required, and rationing of liquid fuel through contracts between the Government and some 4,000 firms, as well as the creation of a government agency for the saving of energy.

He stated categorically that there would be no return rationing. M Giscard d'Estaing, who opened the Paris motor show in the morning, in an atmosphere of distinct gloom gave assurances that the Government would do nothing to undo the difficulties of the motor industry. This undertaking also seems to exclude a further lowering of the speed limit.

"The energy crisis is a lasting one, but in present circumstances it is a problem of the near future," M Chirac told the National Assembly. France was especially hit by the rise in oil prices, as she imported 70 per cent of her energy requirements.

Between 1974 and 1980, we have to go through a very difficult period during which it will be essential for us to make very substantial economies," he said.

What the Government proposed was not a catalogue of "provisional" or piecemeal measures—which is precisely what it is accused of having done—but an overall policy.

"Progressively worked out in the past few months," it was designed to reduce as soon as possible the dependence of France on outside sources of energy and to persuade consumers to save.

Between 1974 and 1983, the coal mines would produce one-third more than had been forecast. Hydroelectric resources, hitherto regarded as fully exploited, would be reexamined. Oil drilling would begin in the Channel in 1975 after a settlement with Britain.

But the essential part of the Government's energy plan was the development of nuclear power, which by 1985 would lead to a saving of 65 million tons of oil, or as much as today's consumption of industrial and domestic fuel oil.

By the end of the decade, nuclear energy would meet 30 per cent of French energy requirements. Thanks to this policy, in 1980, and especially by 1985, our imports of energy will be only half of our requirements, instead of 70 per cent as now."

The economies proposed would mean a saving of 10 per cent in domestic fuel oil, one of the same order in industrial consumption. Instead of petrol rationing, the Government would adopt measures to restrict the use of private cars and parking, and encourage public transport.

"Nothing would be more ineffective than to attempt to solve the energy problem through spectacular but superficial measures," M Chirac added in answer to public and press criticisms. "Nothing would be more stupid than to draw up a cast-iron plan, and pretend it could not be improved or adapted. France is a sufficiently adult nation to allow one to hope that explanation and civic spirit will make compulsion unnecessary."

Cooler look at plan to televise NEDC

By George Clark

All three party leaders are in favour of the broadcasting of Parliament and when the new session begins, whichever government is in power, it is expected that an early move will be made to test the opinion of the 635 newly-elected MPs.

Mr Wilson brought the subject into prominence at his press conference in London yesterday when he commented on Mr Heath's proposal that there should be a national forum, developed out of the National Economic Development Council (NEDC), to get agreement on measures to meet the economic crisis, and that its proceedings should be televised.

The Prime Minister was dubious about having such proceedings televised because, if the parties were trying to get agreement on contentious matters, it would provide a perfect opportunity for the militants to air their views.

John Winder writes from Manchester: If the Conservatives win the election the NEDC will not have to suffer televised publicity at every meeting. Mr Heath, speaking at a press conference in Manchester yesterday, appeared to reverse to some extent his reported suggestion that he would develop the NEDC into a televised forum.

He said in reply to questions: "What I have said is that we want all these matters discussed openly, not only in London but in other parts of the country. Most of the time, will obviously want to have most discussions in confidence, but our other proposals are that we should have national discussions which can be in public."

Mr Heath also said he believed that a majority of the Conservative Party were behind his leadership.

Worried Londoners and the Pakistani who wants to get away from it all Suburban grumbles south of the Thames

By Diana Geddes

If there is one common characteristic to be found among the highly diversified two million voters in south London during this campaign, it is in the impression they give of a thick grey fog, which they would identify as "inflation" without really understanding what it is or where it comes from, despairing of ever finding anyone to show them the way out.

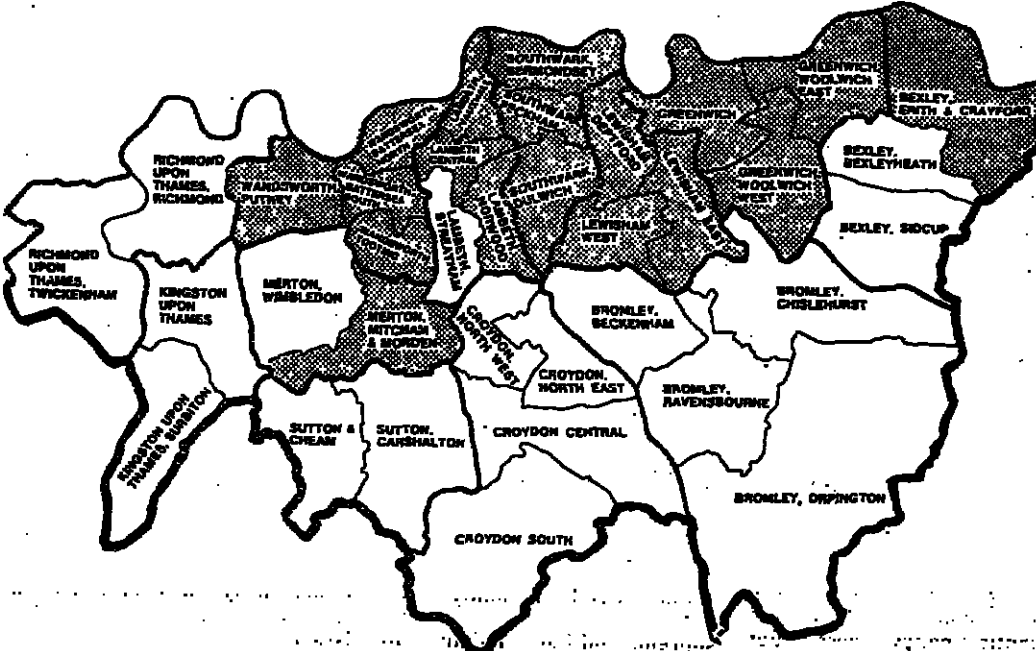
There is no real excitement, and no great emotions are being stirred by the campaign. One candidate, a Conservative, was "less". The predominant issues are colourless, because they are basically non-party-political. All three parties agree that something must be done about rising prices, housing, education and public transport; but people are serious in roughly equal numbers from both the other parties.

A bus driver, aged 28, in Orpington, said: "We've had our time, haven't we? Like Rome and Greece. Now we're running right down. We've had it." Describing himself as "by rights a Labour man," he said he would probably vote Liberal this time and blamed the rising prices on "the people". "People just don't work in this country. They want more money and less work all the time."

A Customs and Excise control officer, aged 51, who also complains of the country's problems, said he was "fed up" with work and depressed. "Man is gradually finishing himself off. No governments can cure man's idleness. I voted Tory last time, but they've got no new solutions, and the old ones don't work."

He said he was "fed up" with the population out of work, or we need a dictator such as Churchill.

I found a high proportion of people of all ages and from all three parties who were unwilling to discuss bitterly about any one party this time. Party



The South London constituencies: shaded areas are held by Labour, white by Conservative.

agents, while maintaining that their particular vote is holding firm, admit that they too are surprised by the large numbers of undecided voters, with barely a week to go before polling day. It is interesting to note once again how the Liberals, who in the past have often benefited from the votes of the undecided, are themselves being deserted by the "don't knows". However, they still seem to be winning converts in roughly equal numbers from both the other parties.

The Liberal vote is going to be an important factor in the election in south London. The Liberal came second in half the 18 Tory seats and captured 20 to 25 per cent of the vote in the other half. They took third place in all the Labour-held seats, but, with the exception of Bermondsey, still managed to win 15 to 20 per cent of the vote.

They are concentrating their attack this time on Orpington, where Lady Avebury, wife of the former Eric Lubbock, Liberal MP for the constituency from 1962-70, is standing for the first time on Sutton and Cheam, where Graham Tope, whose 7,417 by-election majority was turned into a 1,719 Conservative majority in February, is standing again; and on Richmond where the Liberals increased their share of the vote in the last election from the 16.9 per cent they polled in 1970 to 35.6 per cent.

Many people may still be undecided about which way to vote, but a Pakistani shopkeeper in Purney said he had made his mind up. He had voted Labour last time, but he could not keep up with the rising prices. "This time I vote National Front," he said with a wide grin, "because I want to go back!" Pakistan could not be in such dire straits as Britain.



Lady Avebury: Contesting Orpington for the Liberals.

Unemployment no answer, Chancellor maintains

Continued from page 1

69 and 80 billion (American-style) dollars. First, that if consuming countries could not borrow to finance the deficits, they would have to cut oil imports "to a degree that would produce a collapse of their economies."

In that context he had advocated the Heath plan to invest a substantial part of their surplus in a borrowing facility for consuming countries proportionate to need. The response "is evidence about this possible source of mass unemployment is now widely shared."

The second danger arose from the fact that the enormous peso-dollar surplus was not recognized by too many countries as a big reduction in world demand, equivalent to a domestic tax on consumption in oil importing countries.

"If," Mr Healey said, "on top of this very substantial deflationary influence individual countries depress domestic demand still further in the hope of reducing inflation, we could be heading for a worst slump."

Chancellor's role from Chancellor to that of an electioneer, Mr Healey jibed that the Conservatives offered three solutions.

printing money or increased taxation. Across Smith Square at Conservative Central Office, Mr Prior, the shadow Employment Minister, anticipated Mr Healey's assertions by speaking of mounting unemployment.

He challenged Mr Wilson "now to publish the forecasts for unemployment prepared by the Treasury and Department of Employment."

Confronted with the challenge, Mr Healey refused to publish the forecasts, on the argument that no government ever published them.

Mr Prior also condemned Labour's social contract as a non-event. "It is simply no answer to rely on this any longer as a way of controlling inflation because nobody, including the trade unions, now thinks this can be sufficient."

What are they going to do? "What is their policy now that the social contract is but? It is no longer any answer to rule out other options because the contract is there, because we now know it is a non-runner."

More specifically, Mr Prior asked if Mr Wilson would say whether the Ford offer was within the social contract. When the question was addressed to him, Mr Wilson hedged.

Parental education rights emphasized

By Our Political Correspondent

"We hope to end the attitude among a minority of education officials who either regard parents as irrelevant pests, to be brushed aside, or as the painful prerequisite for children and nothing else," Mr St John-Stevas, Conservative spokesman on education, said yesterday.

The main object of the Conservatives' proposed new Education Bill—the first major Act since the great Butler Act of 1944—would be to give much greater effect to parental rights and influence throughout the educational system, he told the Conservative Party's press conference in London.

A clause in the Bill would, he said, place a clear obligation both on the state and the local authorities to follow parental wishes on the choice of school and education of their children.

Tim Devlin, writes from Manchester: Education was a far greater issue in the election than the press and the other

media were acknowledging. Mr Prentice, Secretary of State for Education and Science, told audiences during a tour of marginal constituencies in Lancashire yesterday.

"We are now spending about £4,000 a year, which is 7 per cent of the gross national product, a percentage twice as high as we were spending 20 years ago. But it is not enough."

He said that if a Labour government were returned, he would do his best to devote more resources to education.

He said at a meeting near Barnstaple that because Mr Wilson and Mr Heath were both aware that defeat would bring the end of their political careers, they were hell-bent on making certain that the other would lose.

Mr Thorpe added: "As we move into the final stage of the election, it is evident that the leadership of the Conservative and Labour parties is engaged in a war of attrition, while the country is slowly drained of its economic will to live."

Philip Howard

Increasing desperation down on the farm

By Our Political Correspondent

They were not quite giving the cattle away with Green Shield stamps at the Guildford market, but at times they were not far off it. Bulls that had cost £18 a cwt to rear, taking no account of interest on capital, were going for £13 a cwt. Week-old bobby calves, the pathetic waste products of the dairy business, were selling for under £1 a head on the short, sharp road to making veal and ham pies and calves' handbags. The auction ring was its usual familiar arena of rich farmyard smells and turkey-sobble of the auctioneer, encompassed by a ring of red, garbled, knowledgeable faces. But the faces did not look as cheerful as they used to. The ignorant towner's stereotyped image of the farmer is of somebody, well fed and healthy, who complains bitterly about the weather, the Government, and his poverty, before driving off in a new Range-Rover. But farmers, particularly those who scratch a living breeding livestock, have had to scratch for life for the past 18 months. In hill farming counties, where margins are precarious at the best of times, the situation has become so desperate that there have been demonstrations and talk of riots and a blockade of the ports at which imports of Irish livestock are landed.

Surrey and Sussex are richer and more diversified farmland, and accordingly feel the pinch less. But they are feeling it hard enough to notice. John Matklem, who runs a Friesian dairy herd at Pounds Farm, Ockham, gave up selling his beef

calves last September, when the price fell below £35 a head, and he was left with a ridiculous amount on every calf he sold. He says: "I would not get £10 a head at Guildford now. I just think it would be wrong to sell at today's prices. I am lucky that I have enough buildings to carry all the autumn and spring's calf crop through the winter, and to fatten them, and hope that prices improve. But on less lucky farms a lot of cattle are going to die of starvation this winter; and there could be a year ago with a year's less feeding inside it. If he had sold it as a cwt two years ago, he would have got about £90."

Conventional political wisdom supposes that farmers and farming communities are generally conservative; and that they are so because of their dependence on the farming vote is no longer very significant except in a few constituencies. But conventional wisdom may be being changed by the current pressures on farming.

When John Matklem came to Pounds Farm as a tenant 16 years ago, it carried a herd of 34 cows. He has built it up until he, or rather his bank, owns it. He grows 120 acres of arable, mostly for seed, and runs a herd of 140 milking cows, milked by one man in a rotary parlour that would have gratified Henry Ford with its simple

American influence seen in promoting Italian crisis

From Our Correspondent Rome, Oct 4

Insinuations that the United States is not wholly divorced from the present Italian Government crisis continued here today with an assertion by a left-wing Christian Democrat leader that the American Ambassador in Rome favours a centre-left government.

Signor Carlo Donat Cattin said in an interview with the Genoa daily newspaper Secolo XIX today that he had a talk with Mr John Volpe, the Ambassador, some 10 days before the state visit of President Leone to the United States.

Signor Donat Cattin said, "I was disappointed when I heard that our country needs a good general election," Signor Donat Cattin said, "Volpe went on to hope that in that case, there would be a union between Christian Democrats, Social Democrats, Liberals and Republicans."

A spokesman for the United States Embassy denied that Mr Volpe had expressed any opinion on general elections during his meeting with Signor Donat Cattin, adding: "There must have been some misunderstanding."

The present crisis came to a head late last night when Signor Mariano Rumor, the Prime Minister, handed in his resignation. This move, which had been in the air for some time, was precipitated by a declaration by Signor Mario Tanassi, the Social Democrat Party leader, that the centre-left Government was "dishonest."

The Rome newspaper Il Messaggero commented today that the party "has given the impression of acting under the inspiration of initiatives extraneous to the socialist and democratic tradition."

Signor Donat Cattin gave a warning in today's interview that fresh elections would make the country ungovernable. The left wing would gain 30 to 40 seats in the Lower House. The Christian Democrats would not be able to form a majority and the Christians would only be able to form one with the neo-fascists.

Fresh elections "could create bitter tension which could end with the liquidation of our democratic institutions."

Rejection of church by young worries Synod

From Our Correspondent Rome, Oct 4

Catholic bishops from many parts of the world have reported to the Synod here that growing numbers of young people believe that the institutional church hides the face of God instead of revealing it.

The phenomenon of young people who genuinely seek Christ but reject the church has become one of the main problems in the Synod's debate.

Alfonso Lopez Trujillo, president of the Latin-American bishops' conference, summing up the first week of the month-long Synod at a press conference today, said that young people respected and were interested in the person of Jesus Christ but had difficulty in accepting the institutional church.

"The rising cost of living coupled with the Government's tight reins on credit seem to have curbed free spending. Travelling showmen contemplating the half-empty swings and roundabouts on the fairground estimated that their earnings were 30 per cent down on the previous year's. One said: 'People are not throwing their money about as they used to.'"

Inflation dims Bavarian beer festival

Munich, Oct 4.—Inflation has hit brewers' profits at the Bavarian beer festival which ends on Sunday.

Bartenders totting up their takings at the Oktober fest over the past 13 days complained today that they would be left with about 220,000 gallons of beer on their hands.

"The rising cost of living coupled with the Government's tight reins on credit seem to have curbed free spending. Travelling showmen contemplating the half-empty swings and roundabouts on the fairground estimated that their earnings were 30 per cent down on the previous year's. One said: 'People are not throwing their money about as they used to.'"

Outcry over Nobel Prize award to Swedes

From Our Correspondent Stockholm, Oct 4

The Swedish Academy today faced criticism from the Stockholm literary world for the selection yesterday of two of its own members, Harry Martinson and Eyvind Johnson, for the 1974 Nobel Prize for Literature.

"Perhaps in future we should reserve the prize for non-Swedish writers in view of its international esteem," Mr Arvid Lundkvist, a writer and member of the Academy, said.

Mr Sven Delblanc, another Swedish writer, said that the Academy should not have given the prize to literature altogether. "The prize is an absurdity," Mr Bo Stroomstedt said, and is more closely connected to politics than literature. He pointed to the 1965 award to Mikhail Sholokhov, the Russian writer, "who had not even written the book he was given the prize for."

Mr Jan Gellin, the chairman of the Swedish Writers' Union, said that the choice "personally pleases me very much. At the same time I think the Academy put itself in a dilemma by choosing Swedish writers for the prize. Many people are going to say that it is wrong, in principle, to give the prize to our own."

Mr Martinson and Mr Johnson were the first Swedes in 13 years to be given the award. Another prominent Swedish writer dismissed the idea of a prize for literature altogether. "The prize is an absurdity," Mr Bo Stroomstedt said, and is more closely connected to politics than literature. He pointed to the 1965 award to Mikhail Sholokhov, the Russian writer, "who had not even written the book he was given the prize for."

Handwritten note in Arabic script.

WEST EUROPE AND OVERSEAS

Mr Ford to warn American people of belt-tightening and say that the economic burden must be shared

From Fred Emery Washington, Oct 4. President Ford is to address a joint session of Congress next Tuesday with his long-awaited battle plan against inflation, recession and the energy crisis. Announcing this today the White House spokesman stated that the President would call for sacrifice and prescribe unpleasant medicine. No details were volunteered in advance—except what Mr Ford would not do.

tougher policies could be contemplated, but the President has been under enormous pressure not to delay tackling the economy a day longer. Since he took over from Mr Nixon, the Stock Market has plunged, inflation has accelerated, and unemployment has increased. It is hardly his fault, but despite the greatest display of continental-wide economic consultation seen in recent history he is now being criticized for doing nothing.

Mr Nixon loses control of tapes

From Our Own Correspondent Washington, Oct 4. The Senate this afternoon voted overwhelmingly to prevent Mr Nixon from controlling and deleting his Watergate tape recordings. The vote of 55-7 in favour of a Bill preserving the tapes for public access came as the former President left hospital in Long Beach, California. He had stayed 11 days for tests and treatment of his pleuritis. The doctor said there were no further complications beyond the blood clot being successfully treated in the lung.

Nixon at the time of his pardon. That agreement gave Mr Nixon a restricted access to all his tapes and documents for the next five years under a dual key arrangement with the Government at a document depository near his California home. After five years Mr Nixon could have ordered destruction of all tapes.

Besieged guerrillas' offer fails to elicit response

Santo Domingo, Oct 4.—The siege at the Venezuelan Consulate, where urban guerrillas and their seven hostages are cooped-up on meagre rations, entered its second week today. There was no sign of any response from the Government of the Dominican Republic to the guerrillas' offer yesterday.

Buddhist nuns chase loudspeaker van

Saigon, Oct 4.—Senator Vu Van Mau, the head of the Buddhist-supported National Reconciliation Movement, in a signed statement today called on President Nguyen Van Thieu to resign for the sake of national concord.

Japan's nuclear ship not to be scrapped

Tokyo, Oct 4.—The Japanese Government denied today that it was planning to scrap the country's first nuclear-powered ship Mutsu, which has been drifting in the Pacific for a month.

How Britain aids Africans from Rhodesia

By A. M. Rendel Diplomatic Correspondent A notable stage in the British Government's efforts to help Africans from Rhodesia was reached this week when a party of 30 students arrived in London. They were among the 155 African students of the University of Rhodesia who were involved in a demonstration against racial discrimination in August, 1973.



The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Ramsey, joins young people in singing religious songs to guitar accompaniment at a picnic near Buenos Aires during his South American tour.

Cypriot leader decides not to resign

From Paul Martin Nicosia, Oct 4. Mr Glafkos Clerides, the acting President of Cyprus, ended the uncertainty over his leadership today by declaring his intention to continue in office. He said that although he had seriously considered resigning in the last few days, public support from Archbishop Makarios and the Greek Prime Minister had changed his mind.

Soviet party leader going to France

From Charles Hargrove Paris, Oct 4. Mr Brezhnev, the Soviet Communist Party leader, will pay a working visit to France from December 5 to December 7 at the invitation of President Giscard d'Estaing.

New Israel protest on UN Palestine debate

From Peter Strafford New York, Oct 4. The Israel Foreign Minister, made a new protest at the United Nations last night over the debate which is planned on Palestine. He attacked the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) and said that Israel would refuse to accept any resolution which conceded its demands.

Pakistan to lose \$300m by Tarbela dam failure

From Our Correspondent Rawalpindi, Oct 4. Pakistan's economic loss as a result of damage to the Tarbela dam is estimated at about \$300m (£130m). Mr Bhutto, the Prime Minister, disclosed this today after holding talks with foreign consultants, experts and World Bank officials.

U.S honour for Solzhenitsyn

Washington, Oct 4.—The Senate today approved a resolution which would make the dissident Soviet writer Mr Alexander Solzhenitsyn an honorary citizen of the United States.

Egyptian family is charged with selling secrets

Cairo, Oct 4.—A family of five will stand trial before the supreme military tribunal tomorrow on charges of spying for Israel, the Middle East news agency said today.

Shah discusses 'ocean of peace'

Delhi, Oct 4.—The Shah of Iran ended his three-day visit to Delhi today after talks with Mrs Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, covering security and economic and cultural cooperation.

Second failure to form Turkish Cabinet

Ankara, Oct 4.—Mr Suleyman Demirel, the Justice Party leader, today became the second Prime Minister designate in a week to report failure to form a coalition government.

Moscow artists want to hold indoor exhibition

Moscow, Oct 4.—Organizers of the abstract art show in Moscow park last Sunday have formally requested permission to hold another exhibition in December.

Peru rescue teams search for earthquake victims

Lima, Oct 4.—The death toll in a violent earthquake that rocked central Peru for 100 seconds yesterday was expected to rise today as rescuers searched for bodies among the debris of wrecked homes.

British couple held at border

Perpignan, Oct 4.—A British couple were arrested at the Franco-Spanish customs post of Perpignan near Perpignan today and charged with trying to smuggle currency into France.

British journalist rejects Brazilian charges

Buenos Aires, Oct 4.—A British journalist charged with terrorism in Brazil has said in Buenos Aires that the accusation was an attempt to blacken his name and hinder his work as a journalist.

Chile announces release of 386 prisoners

Santiago, Oct 4.—The Chilean military Government has announced that it has released 386 political prisoners in the past 23 days and is now holding only 748.

Australia ends panic by easing credit squeeze

From Our Correspondent Melbourne, Oct 4. A measure of confidence returned to the Australian business community today as the Federal Government relaxed the credit squeeze. Share prices rallied on Australian stock exchanges, the pressure on building societies was lifted and business returned to normal.

Portuguese plea to foreign press

From Jose Shericliff Lisbon, Oct 4. Dr Mario Soares, the Foreign Minister, urged foreign correspondents today to report on Portuguese affairs "with good faith and understanding."

Japan expects another bumper rice crop

Tokyo, Oct 4.—Japan will have another bumper rice crop of 12,358,000 tonnes this year, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry forecast today.

British couple held at border

Perpignan, Oct 4.—A British couple were arrested at the Franco-Spanish customs post of Perpignan near Perpignan today and charged with trying to smuggle currency into France.



von Stroheim and La Grande Illusion

by Jean Renoir

Everything was unorthodox about *La Grande Illusion*—to start with, the way in which the idea came to me. To explain this I must go back to the year 1915, when a wound I sustained while fighting as a Chasseur Alpin led me, after vicissitudes, to join flying-squadron C 64.

This squadron was sent out on a variety of missions. It was an army, that is to say, an all-purpose, squadron. We kept observation on the German lines in our sector, supplying the cartographic service with photographs of the enemy positions. We were also at the disposal of the gentlemen of the General Staff when they felt like enjoying the thrill of an incursion into enemy skies.

The leader of our squadron was like a child lost in the wilderness. He invented missions which had not been ordered, and these attempts to escape from the boredom of our hutments, with their view of an interminable field of potatoes, did not always turn out happily.

I have a very clear recollection of the last of these excursions. We had been celebrating the birthday of one of the team and had drunk a good deal of the champagne nature which we got from the local vinegrowers. It was a murky day, and somebody had the idea that by taking advantage of the low cloud and brighter patches we might upset the German digestion with a little machine-gun fire without much risk to ourselves. We chose as our target a large French village occupied by a German brigade headquarters, passed the word to our mechanics and within a short time half a dozen twin-engined Caudrons were ready to take the air. We set off to hunt Germans as lightheartedly as if we had been hunting rabbits: such was the effect of the war upon our minds that we took these shabby exploits for granted. The thought of them now turns my stomach; it is perhaps because I took part in

them that I so detest them. Finding a gap in the clouds we swooped down on the village. But the Germans had installed some highly efficient AA defences; I was caught in a barrage and had only just time to seek cloud cover. I came out of it determined to give the staff scribblers, now famous for shelter, a burst or two of machine-gun fire. We despised all desk-warriors, who lived such comfortable lives compared with the men in the front lines; but we had a certain affection for the German front-line troops, who suffered as much as our own. They were men of our own kind, whereas the desk-warriors were scribblers.

Our captain's aircraft had been shot down and lay burning, carried on, heading for the target. This senseless operation cost us the lives not only of our commanding officer but also of a young flight lieutenant whom we considered the best pilot in the squadron. It prompted the General Staff to put an end to that kind of skylarking, and it was also the end of the twin-engined Caudrons. They were wonderful machines, but they had had their day and the German Focke-Wulf had no difficulty in avoiding their angle of fire and shooting them down.

I adored my old Caudron. Those were the last aircraft to be built entirely of wood. Banking was affected by wing elevation. They put me in mind of Kites. There was also the intoxicating smell of castor oil which was used to lubricate rotary engines, still in use on the fighter Nieuports and the reconnaissance Caudrons. When we got out after a flight the oil was dripping from our overalls. For the rotary engines—Gnome-Rhone or Clerget-Blin—were a symbol of aviation. I was inclined to despise the aircraft with normal four-stroke engines—good enough for taxi-work was what I thought of them. It must be

said that the Farman-Renault pilots took the criticism in good part. They themselves called their aircraft "hen-coops"; it was, through my Caudron that I made the acquaintance of the man destined to become the hero of *La Grande Illusion*, Major Pinsard.

I was summoned one morning to the head office and introduced to a staff-officer acting upon an assignment the nature of which he did not condescend to explain. He was a captain of Hussars, reflecting in his whole person that *je ne suis qu'un* which makes cavalry officers a race apart.

We got into the plane. I had to make a second take-off, having been put off the first time by a flight of partridges. My passenger had supplied me with the necessary detail regarding the place he wanted to observe. All went well until a Focke-Wulf fighter appeared on the scene. I signalled to my passenger that I was going to turn back, but he took no notice. Pilot and observer in my old Caudron were seated one behind the other, so that it was almost impossible for them to communicate. The Focke overhauled us and gave us a burst of tracer bullets. I looked round at my passenger and asked him, with gestures, if he was not now convinced. But he was not a bit of it. He was quite undisturbed. I banked and, getting the Focke in my sights for a few seconds fired at him, but missed.

The Focke seemed to be playing with us. He swept over us, passed us and returned to the attack. It was like a swallow attacking an elephant. I swore to myself that if I got out of this alive I would ask to be transferred to a fighter squadron—this business of being hunted instead of huntsman, seemed to me wholly lacking in charm. But at this moment a third protagonist came swooping out of the sky. I saw that it was one of the French

fighter squadron operating in our sector. This was a squadron of what we called "show dancers", by which we meant pilots who had everything. Their Rhone-engined Nieuports had been replaced by the latest Hispano-Suiza Spads.

It was soon over. The Spad got on the tail of the Focke, gave it a burst and then climbed to repeat the attack. That vertical climb left me breathless with admiration. Meanwhile the Focke was belching black smoke. It went into a spin and crashed on a small hill on top of which there was a chapel. I have to mention the chapel because of my feeling that we owed the timely appearance of our rescuer to the intervention of some saint.

His victory was celebrated by a champagne dinner in our mess. It was not the first exploit of Major Pinsard, who was one of the most brilliant of French fighter pilots. I admired him enormously. Apart from the fact that he has saved my life he represented in my eyes the perfect type of pre-1914 Dragoon *sous-off* (or NCO). Moreover, he remained faithful to pre-war uniform. It was a pleasure to me to look at him in his tight black tunic and red breeches. Pinsard and I became good friends. I spent hours listening to him talk about horses he had trained. But one day my notice was transferred elsewhere and Pinsard vanished from my horizon.

I was to meet him again in 1934 in Les Marquises, where I had gone to shoot *Toni*. Not far from Les Marquises there was a huge flying field, which was both a school and a landing ground. The pilots working there had spotted our small party of actors and when we were shooting out-of-doors, which was nearly always, they performed aerobics over our heads. Their interest in us interfered with my insistence upon authentic sound. Pierre Gant, the producer of the film, suggested that we should call

on the senior officer and ask him to send his planes elsewhere. The duty-officer passed us on to a captain who showed us into the office of the General Officer in Command. Directly I set eyes on this important personage I had a feeling that I had seen him before. It was Pinsard. He had won a general's star and lost his moustache. General Pinsard took the necessary steps to enable me to shoot *Toni* without the company being deepened by the noise of his aircraft, and we got into the habit of dining together whenever we were free. He told me about his wartime adventures. He had been shot down seven times by the Germans and every time had managed to land safely. Also, on all seven occasions he had escaped from imprisonment. The story of his escape seemed to me a good basis for an adventure film, and with this in mind I made notes of what seemed to me the most typical details and filed them away.

Later I talked to Charles Spack, who was enthusiastic about the idea and helped me to make a first sketch of what was destined, after many changes, to become *La Grande Illusion*. Most of the changes were due to the arrival of a heavyweight on the scales—Erich von Stroheim.

At the beginning of my career in films I was only interested in artificiality. Then, as I have said when talking about my use of panchromatic film, I went through a period of total realism. I now believe that it is impossible to seek a rate realism from transposition, whether on the stage or screen. In *Nana* I was able to indulge my penchant for fantasy that breaks the bounds of realism. The wildness of the reality is, beyond the imaginative scope of even the best designer. Catherine Respigny studied the fashion journals of the period at the Musée des Arts Décoratifs. Lestranguez and I were soon persuaded that, for all his talents, Claude

Aumont-Lara was far from conjuring up the exuberant fantasy of the real dresses of the period. But here, too, I was wrong. The dresses in *Nana* dismayed audiences nearly as much as the personality of the actress. In this field, as in all others, the public demands truthfulness. Reality can be too shocking. I must confess that I have never completely learnt the lesson of *Nana*.

In *La Grande Illusion* I was still very much concerned with realism—to the point, indeed, that I asked Gabin to wear my old aviator's tunic, which I had kept after being demobilized. At the same time I did not hesitate to add fanciful touches to certain details, in order to heighten the effect—for example in Von Stroheim's uniform. His part, which at first was a very minor one, had been greatly enlarged because I was afraid that, confronted by the weighty personalities of Gabin and Fresnay, he would look like a light weight. In art, as in life, it is all a question of balance; and the problem is to keep both sides of the scales level. That is why I took liberties with Von Stroheim's uniform, which was quite out of keeping with my realistic principles—at that time. His uniform is authentic, but with a flamboyance quite unknown to the commander of a POW camp in the First War. I needed this theatrical facade to counterbalance the impressive simplicity of the Frenchman. There are instances of stylization in *La Grande Illusion*, despite its strictly realistic appearance, which take us into the realm of fantasy and these breaks into illusion I owe largely to Von Stroheim. I am profoundly grateful to him. I am incapable of doing good work unless it contains an element of the fairy tale.

The recollection of that film takes me back to a particularly happy period in my life. I had been able to engage my friend Karl Koch to check the authenticity of the German scenes.

Koch was married to Lotte Reiniger, who was the creator of some wonderful shadow-show films. Catherine Hessling and I made their acquaintance when her masterpiece, *Le Prince Acimé*, was being shown in Paris. We became great friends and worked together on a number of film projects.

Karl Koch had been a German army captain of artillery in the First War. In 1916 he was in command of an anti-aircraft battery in the Rheims sector. "It was a good sector," he told me. "Nothing against it except the incessant attack of the French squadron opposite us." As it happens, in 1916 I was flying in a reconnaissance squadron in the same sector, and we were the main target of a German battery which gave us a lot of trouble. Koch and I concluded that this was his battery; so we had made war together. These things form a bond. The fact that we had been on opposite sides was the merest detail. Indeed, as I come to think of it, it was even better—a further instance of my theory of the division of the world by horizontal frontiers and not into compartments enclosed in vertical frontiers.

Karl Koch's real profession was philosophy, and because of it he was a perpetual student. There was nothing about what is called film-technique that he did not know. He had himself designed Lotte Reiniger's studio, where that mistress of shadow-show made the very complicated takes of her films.

But the subject which most interested Koch was Roman art, and it was his ambition to visit all the Roman chapels in the Saitronge region, which was, it seems, one of the most important centres of the religious art of the tenth and eleventh centuries. Those small churches and village chapels are very pure specimens of the period, but they have to be discovered. It was after this

Continued on page 12

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Music

Picking the winners in Jerusalem



Artur Schnabel with the prizewinners: Emanuel Ax, Seta Tanyel, Janna Fialkowska and Eugene Indric.

Musical competitions have always been a controversial subject... The Jerusalem International Piano Competition was held in Jerusalem from 1972 to 1974... The winners were Emanuel Ax, Seta Tanyel, Janna Fialkowska and Eugene Indric.

English pianist Margaret Newman played Mozart very beautifully; and that other woman admirer without reaching the semifinals. Audiences were very small. Artur Schnabel (like me) arrived for the second stage at once announced his intention of being a jury member...

was going to be hard for the jurors to select four finalists. Rubinstein himself declared 'Never, never, never have I met such a concentration of talents before—everyone, at a lesser contest, would easily have won first prize...'

The finals were somewhat anticlimactic though. Artur Schnabel's account of Brahms's D minor concerto and a finely characterized Beethoven in G: he was the obvious winner. Mr Indric played perceptibly below top form and was placed equal third and won the copper medal.

Drink Vintage mail order There is nothing new about buying wine by post. Anyone can order from a list, and if they read the small print at the beginning and end, certain price advantages as to quantity and other discounts will usually be found to be available.

of wine selected for purchase by post to be offered at a price lower than that paid over the counter. But this is not always so. G. F. Grant, who as wine-merchants to Diners Club, have probably unparalleled experience in this field, stress that although it may well be practicable to offer bin ends or remnants for mail order, a case of wine by mail order is not necessarily a "bargain".

Any firm shipping—and many merchants are also shippers—must, obviously, "buy direct" from producers. True, an individual may import a small quantity which can be offered at a low price, but the firm will not only have the facilities for handling a wider range, but can control the quality of the wines at source, whether they are Grants of St James's, who represent in the United Kingdom the firm of Nicholas, the biggest merchants in the world, Laytons (11 Gough Square, EC4) who have their own bottling plant in Burgundy, or Aveyrs of Bristol, one of the best-known of independent wine merchants.

that the various types of wines that they offer—Spanish, Italian, French, Austrian—are each sponsored by an individual specializing in the wines of that country or region. Mail order can introduce wines that are unfamiliar. In my view a case of such wines should be able to be drunk almost on arrival—which means that fine, delicate or wines with a heavy deposit are not to be looked for in this sort of shop.

ENTERTAINMENTS

When telephoning use prefix 01 only outside London Metropolitan Area ALSO ON PAGES 10 AND 11

Table listing various entertainment events including Wigmore Hall, Royal Albert Hall, and other venues with dates and times.

New Gallery Concert Hall

ALLAN BLACKBURN presents THE KING'S SINGERS Tickets: £1.75, £1.40, £1.00, 75p. New Gallery Box Office (01-754 888)

SCUOLA DI CHIESA THEO MERTENS BRASS QUINTET

Programme includes: Funeral Music for Queen Mary, The Last Post, The Last Night of the World, etc.

DOMESTIC SITUATIONS

WORKING HOUSEKEEPER I am international woman in London with 10 years experience... COOK/HOUSEKEEPER I am a young woman with 10 years experience... EDUCATIONAL LANGUAGE TUITION CENTRE'S SECRETARIAL COLLEGE

ROYAL ALBERT HALL

Kensington, SW7 2AP TOMORROW at 7.30 p.m.

YEHUDI MENUHIN

MENDELSSOHN and ELGAR CONCERTOS ROSSINI OVERTURE Italian Girl in Albers with the NEW PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA

TCHAIKOVSKY

Overture "1812" 2 MILITARY BANDS Bands of the Scots Guards and The Irish Guards

VIENNESE NIGHT

Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra Band of the Irish Guards Conductor: James Houff

BEETHOVEN

Overture Egmont Piano Concerto No. 5 "Emperor" Overture Leonora No. 3

BBC LUNCHTIME RECITALS

at St. John's, Smith Sq., Westminster Mondays, at 1 p.m., October, 1974 to July, 1975

WINDSOR FESTIVAL

Theatre Royal, Windsor October 5 & 6 p.m. Gerard Souzay and Dalton Baldwin

October 14 to 19 Evenings 7.30

PHOENIX OPERA present Offenbach's LA VIE PARISIENNE

WIMBLEDON THEATRE

The Broadway, London, S.W.19. Tel: 01-946 5211. October 20 open for the HANDEL OPERA SOCIETY

von Stroheim and La Grande Illusion

Continued from page 8

that the population, migrating towards the cathedrals in the big cities, began the steady exodus from country to town; and those modest sanctuaries, bereft of their intended function, were used as barns and stables.

Koch and I drove back from the south through the lovely Beaujolais country. He asked me to make a detour to look at a statue in a Roman church. We pulled up outside a little chapel freshly roofed with the glaring red of mass-produced tiles. Koch was thinking of nothing but his statue. He marched in, and finding his way amid pews and pulpits went unhesitatingly up to a statue of St Joseph carrying a lamb in his arms. I was then treated to the lecture I had been hoping for. It was altogether fascinating, and for more than an hour I lived in the shadow of Anne de Beaujeu. But what had most impressed me was the certainty with which Koch had found the statue, which he had never before set eyes on.

For a brief period in his life, Koch had been principal of a nursery school. To see that respectable gentleman down on his knees helping his young pupils to build a clay fortress, was a surprising sight. He maintained that this game was more stimulating to the mind of a five-year-old child than any amount of manufactured toys. He explained the use of the moats and towers, and then, lying on his stomach, he launched an attack of toy soldiers. When the attack was defeated by pain he took advantage of the circumstances to declare his belief in the influence of weather on earthly affairs.

On another occasion I watched him explaining the formation of valleys in mountainous country with the help of watering-cans of which the contents were poured over a

heap of sand. That sand-heap played a large part in his method of teaching. Koch was a universal spirit, something like the eighteenth-century philosopher. He was a friend of Bertold Brecht, and it was through him that I had the privilege of knowing that remarkable poet, artist in logic and mastery organizer. The *Deutscher Oper* has just opened with great success in Berlin.

My meetings with Brecht often took place in my home in Meudon, which provided him with a perfect setting. The house had been built on the remains of a convent destroyed during the Revolution. Brecht would come accompanied by his secretary, a young Berlin woman who brought with her, not a typewriter but one of those small hexagonal accordions that are, I think called "concertinas". Hans Eisler, Kurt Weill and Lotte Lenya would also come along. Brecht would ask me to sing old French songs. I sing very badly and have no voice. This did not worry Brecht in the least. The secretary picked up the tune on her concertina. That was the origin of certain songs that became world successes.

There was a certain affinity between Brecht and Koch. Both had the same love of paradox. Physically they were at opposite poles. Brecht was a lean German with an ascetic demeanour. Koch was a plump German who enjoyed his comforts, a gourmand as well as a gourmet (he taught me how to roast beef over an open fire), cultured to his finger-tips, unconcerned with politics but capable of doing battle for a symphony or a fine painting.

Koch, the pacifist, could explode in furious rages. Brecht was proud of having been born in Augsburg, a town which he claimed was of Celtic origin. Koch was a Rhinelander, that is to say, pure German. They both agreed in

denouncing the Prussians according to them it was those northerners, those impatient mythomaniacs, who were plunging the world into disaster.

During the shooting of *La Grande Illusion*, the team was lodged in an inn near the castle. The inn-keeper, who was also a wine-grower, slaked our thirst with a particularly attractive but highly treacherous white wine. Koch had a dispute with Stroheim about the over-elaborate clothing of the actress playing the part of his hospital nurse. The argument became heated, with Stroheim defending the artist's right to transpire and Koch replying that he had not fought in the war and should therefore keep his mouth shut.

Stroheim's answer was to call Koch a petty-bourgeois, an unjust accusation, for Koch was an aristocrat in spirit. He stood up, intending to go for Stroheim, but the latter checked him with the lordly gesture of one of his own characters and stalked out. Koch, in a fury, flung his glass at him, but it arrived just too late and smashed against the door as Stroheim closed it behind him. Almost immediately afterwards the door was reopened to reveal Stroheim smiling at the joke and holding out another glass which he offered the dumbfounded Koch. Koch then went out to cool off. He was greatly upset by the episode, which emphasized the stylishness of Stroheim's world—the more so since Stroheim was his god.

We found Koch a little while later. He had fallen into a ditch and was groping for his spectacles on all fours in the snow. The adversaries were reconciled over glasses of white wine, and the underlying reason for their quarrel was buried. This was Stroheim's refusal to see the world as other than made in his own image: his godlike own image.

it difficult for him to come to terms with people.

To complete the portrait of Erich von Stroheim I am obliged to lay stress upon his idiosyncrasy. The ideal he sought to live up to might have been the invention of a passive reincarnation of the musketeer, but this would not have satisfied him. He wanted to resemble the Marquis de Sade. He had dreams of boundless luxury, perverse women, flagellation, sexual exploits, bacchanalia and drinking bouts.

One evening when he came to dine with us in Hollywood during the last war my wife, Dido, offered him a glass of Scotch. He checked her, saying, "No, please, the bottle." Dido put the bottle down beside him and turned to attend to D. W. Griffith, who was seated at the other end of the table. I had hoped to listen to an absorbing conversation between those two masters of the cinema, the more so since Stroheim had worked with Griffith as an actor, according to some people, or the other way round, according to others. But they ignored each other and the whole subject of cinema suddenly Dido noticed that Stroheim was turning green. This was the effect of the whisky, which he did not stand at all well, despite his notion of himself as a heavy drinker. She had just time to show him to the lavatory. An amusing detail is that Stroheim spoke scarcely any German. He had to study his lines like a schoolboy learning a foreign language. But in the eyes of the world he remains the perfect prototype of the German officer: his genius triumphed over the literal imitation of reality.

At the beginning of the shooting of *La Grande Illusion* Stroheim behaved intolerably. We had an argument about the opening scene in the German

officers. He refused to understand why I had not brought some prostitutes of an obviously Viennese type into the scene. I was shocked by my intense admiration for the great man put me in an impossible position, it was because of my enthusiasm for his work that I was asked to bring a prostitute to the set. And now here he was, my idol, acting in my film, and instead of the figure of a prostitute I had a girl being steeped in childish clichés. I was well aware that those same clichés, in his hands, became strokes of genius. But that is often a stroke of inspiration to the greatest artists. Neither Cézanne nor Van Gogh had good taste.

This dispute with Stroheim so distressed me that I burst into tears, which so affected him that there were tears in his own eyes. We fell into each other's arms, damping my sailor's smock and his German officer's tunic. I said that I had so much respect for his talent that I would quarrel with him. I would give up directing the film. This led to further discussions and Stroheim promised that if I would follow his instructions with a slavish docility, and he kept his word.

This is what I know about the beginnings of Erich von Stroheim. The source of my information is Carl Laemmle, Jr., the son of the founder of Universal Studios. He was 20 years old when he decided to retire and leave him in charge of that huge concern. Young Carl produced a number of screen masterpieces, among them *All Quiet on the Western Front* and *Back Street*. One day he announced that he was no longer interested in films and was giving them up for good. He considered, wrongly, that nature had not designed him to be a big-time boss. He was going to devote his life to

less weighty matters, such as horses, women and gambling. Little by little, nearly all the money accumulated by Universal was drained away. I made his acquaintance when he had already fallen ill and was confined to his bed. The incidence of our exchanges remind me of my conversations with Pier-Emmanuel. Carl Laemmle Jr. voluntarily gave up one of the biggest fortunes in the world because he was pure in heart. His rejection of power was not due to any lack of intelligence: it calls for very great wisdom to know when the time has come to renounce the accumulation of worldly goods.

From his first days in Hollywood when he was still quite unknown, Stroheim wanted to make films. Meanwhile he earned his living by working as an actor, playing bit parts when he could get them. He wanted to tell Carl Laemmle senior of his ambitions, and not finding him in his office in the San Fernando Valley studios he went to his house. Laemmle was then living in Sycamore Avenue, at least 10 miles from the studios. Since he could not afford the bus-fare, Stroheim went on foot, and the door was opened to him by Carl Laemmle Jr., then aged 12. Stroheim was very thirsty and young Carl gave him a Coke. The old man appeared to be very surprised that he wanted to make a film both as actor and director. So impressive were his eloquence and determination that, against all reason since he was quite unknown, Laemmle signed him up. *Blind Husbands* was the first film. Stroheim and luckily it was a success, because it cost 100,000 dollars, whereas the original budget had been 25,000 dollars. From the first Stroheim showed himself to be extravagant, dictatorial and a genius. His third film, *Foolish Wives*, cost so much that Laemmle

decided to use its wild expense as an advertising gimmick, and an electric sign in New York's Times Square, chalked up the expenditure from hour to hour. But the film made money, and Stroheim's reputation became fabulous. Nevertheless, Merry-go-Round, his fourth film, was arbitrarily taken away from him after a few weeks' shooting—money again.

Stroheim died in 1957 in his country house near Paris. Hollywood had closed its doors to him obviously because of the enormous cost of his films, but also because he was a genius and could not be fitted into the mediocrity of bureaucratic film-making. He ended his life acting in French films. A few days before his death the French government gave him something which he had long coveted—the legion d'honneur. His funeral was exultantly suited to his extravagant tastes: the carved wood coffin was so big that the path leading to the little chapel had to be widened. The funeral procession, composed of French film celebrities, was preceded by a Trapanese orchestra from a night-club playing Viennese waltzes. Jacques Becker followed the coffin, carrying the dead man's legion d'honneur on a white silk cushion. His funeral was exultantly suited to the fence—occupying front-row seats as one might say, Jacques Becker had wanted to make a speech but was too moved to do so, his words being stifled by sobs. I was unable to accompany Erich von Stroheim my master, to his last resting-place. I was kept in America by the shooting of a film. It was a reason which Stroheim would have perfectly understood.

Copyright Jean Renoir, 1974

Jean Renoir, *My Life and my Films*, Collins, £4.

Gardening Full house

Perhaps it is understandable that people are prepared to spend fairly heavily on pot plants for the home that will only last a few weeks or perhaps two or three months and then cheerfully replace them with others with equally short lives. It could be argued that you can get tired of seeing the same old plant for months or years.

Fine—if we can afford them. We must remember that the cost of all pot plants and cut flowers is going to rise considerably because of the increases in costs of labour, transport, packing materials and market wholesalers' and handling charges. When cut flowers have to be grown in heated glass we must expect to see even greater price increases. Or, it may be that production of the plants that need high greenhouse temperatures, and obviously high temperatures in the home, will be reduced.

In all matters concerning the growing of plants it is dangerous to lay down hard and fast rules or to dogmatise about plant behaviour. It is complicated enough to make plants happy in a garden and although we have considerable control over the environment in the home it is not easy to provide the conditions of some highly desirable plants require.

It is necessary to learn the difference between true house plants—that is plants that will grow and flourish for years in a dwelling house or an apartment, and those which should be more properly described as greenhouse plants. These may do a turn in the home for some weeks, or even a month or two, but then need to be given greenhouse treatment.

It is probably a good idea if you are not well informed about the needs of house plants to look for a shop that sells Rochford's house plants. This firm attaches a label with distinctive colouring to its plants—pink for easy plants, blue for intermediate and yellow for delicate or difficult plants. Then if you are new to house plant growing, if you have moved house and the conditions in the new premises are different from those in your old home, or if you have just had central heating put in you can play safe and buy pink label plants.

Generally the foliage plants are the easiest to accommodate as long-stay guests in your home, although some like codiums (crotons) are not easy. Neither are some of the ferns such as the adiantums or maidenhair ferns.

The real tough ones include aspidistras, which are not plentiful and expensive, and mother-in-law's tongue ferns for *laurentii* and the rubber plant *Ficus elastica*. The genus *Ficus* contains some amazingly diverse species—one scarcely believes that the rubber plant, the fig tree and the creeping *Ficus pumila* are all members of the same genus. The fig of course you do not grow in a living room although it can be put grown in a conservatory or a greenhouse and give excellent fruit. The creeping *F. pumila* is an easy houseplant to grow over a trellis support in the conservatory. Another imperturbable plant and long lived is *Chlorophytum capense*, while the ivies, *Fatsia-dora lizei*, *Philodendron scandens*, *Monstera deliciosa* with

the cut leaves and *Cissus ant-artica* are all easy plants.

Most of the cacti too are uncomplaining living room plants and here we begin to move into the realm of flowering plants. Many of those sold in flower in the florists' shops and stores will flourish in the home and last for many years. They are excellent in centrally heated rooms.

Generally, flowering plants, cacti apart, are not long lived nor very easy to manage in the home. Some people keep cyclamen successfully for years but a reasonable expectation of life, with care and in a temperature that does not rise much above 60°F is three years. The Silver Leaf strain with its silvery variegated leaves is easier than the green leaved forms. White cyclamen I have found last longer than the coloured forms.

The busy lizies, varieties of impatiens are very tolerant of room conditions and living. Fleshy stemmed, they do not object too much if watering is a bit erratic. This makes them good office plants. The plant breeders have been busy with these impatient and some fine new hybrids are around. The dark leaved, red *I. petersiana* is well worth looking for. The plants become leggy after a year or so but they may be cut hard back and young growths removed may be used as cuttings. So while the old plants may not last for years, the progeny will.

We have kept *Primula obconica* in our sitting room for three years and, of course fuchsias are fairly long lived and easy plants. They can be cut back as required. With its curious greenish flowers *Bilbergia nutans* is another tough and quite interesting if not very ornamental plant.

Millions of African violets, saintpaulias, are sold every year, but vast numbers do not live for long in houses or flats. They are not easy plants.

They need a more humid atmosphere than we usually allow in a living room, so it is usual to grow them in containers filled with peat kept moist, or stood on pebbles in trays filled with water. They need good daylight but not sunlight, and they like low temperatures, 55°F minimum at night going up to 75°F by day is a reasonable range.

There are, as I know, many people who are prepared to take a great deal of trouble to grow the more difficult pot plants in the home and for them there are specialist books.

As prices continue to rise, I am sure more people will arrive to learn how to cope with the more difficult house plants and to provide them with acceptable growing conditions.

The plastic pot has now practically replaced the clay pot. It is not, however, so easy to tell when a plant in a plastic pot needs water. You can give a clay pot a sharp tap, and after a bit of practice, tell from the sound, whether it is wet or dry. Not so with plastic. You have to lift it and feel whether it weighs heavy or light. If the plant is growing in a peat based compost it may look dry on top but be quite wet underneath. As overwatering is the easiest way to kill a house plant this is something to watch. When in doubt knock the plant gently out of its pot so that you can examine the whole of the root ball. If a peat compost needs watering it is best to stand the pot up to the rim in a basin of water for an hour, and let it draw up the required amount of water.

Roy Hay

Good Food Guide Vat a way to run a business



Mr John Davy: impressive range of wines to attract regulars.

Back in London after the summer, for the season of mists and moonlight, one looks round eagerly to see where the mellow fruitfulness is going to come from when it is needed. One obvious and quick source is the new generation of London wine bars. They are cropping so heavily that as many people are likely to lose money as make it. But for the moment, operators large and small are convinced that with the average Briton now downing nine bottles of imported wine per head per year, the outlook is

good for liquor outlets that sell no spirits and no beer, but only wines of greater or lesser interest, and, in many places, a brimming measure of character and historical associations.

The *Good Food Guide* itself used to have a Free Winner's prize bar next door—Gordon's in Villiers Street, a shabby paneled room and sawdust cellar. (It is now temporarily closed, but Julia Carpenter, of whom more later, has an application to re-open it.) Most of the wine there was latterly very ordinary indeed, but the place was haunted by the ghosts of Kipling and Chesterton, not to mention Postgate. (In our own

surroundings at modest cost. So we have been looking at the marriage of wine and food in a few London wine bars.

Of course, many of them are severely hampered—as most pubs and all too many restaurants are—by shortage of preparation and service space in the premises they occupy. You are generally at the mercy of the ingenuity and conscientiousness of the particular owner or tenant who is running the place: he (or she) may or may not know enough about wine to lay out £1,400 on a pipe of port without a quail, but does he (or she) know enough about food to bake a quiche or dress a salad?

If there is a single entrepreneur making the running in wine bars it is probably John Davy, who opened his first—the Boot and Flogger, in Borough High Street—six years ago. And now has several others, including the Gyngleboey, in Paddington Green, and Mother Bunch, in Old Seacoal Lane by Ludgate Circus, where Fleet Street meets the City, and where wine-drinkers can be heard calling above the smoke and hubbub "Two Directors, please"—meaning the house port.

For less casual sale, Mr Davy keeps a very impressive range of ports, reaching back to the pre-1914 Cockburns, Sandemans Crofts and Downs; and the clarets too fulfil one of the social purposes of a professionally run wine bar—that you should have the chance to taste there exactly what you are too poor or negligent to buy by private drinking. One day last month a party consumed at the Gyngleboey tankards of Veuve Clicquot (£1.30—but good champagne in a tankard that did not taste of the metal) and glasses of English Adgestone, Mercury '71, Ch Fombrauge '67, Old Tawny from the wood, vintage character port, and Offley '54 (at 35p, 37p, 23p, 35p and 55p respectively) and I must say these wines (and others that may by now have been forgotten, or omitted for decency's educational, and as someone said, "Where else could you taste so many first class wines in a commercial setting?") Davy's places make an effort with their food too when tried, the prawns at Mother Bunch's, though dear, were among the best in London—but at the Gyngleboey the carved joints were better buys than an elderly Julia Carpenter, who runs the Wolsey series of wine bars for Louis Gordon, is working towards a Masterchef of Fulham Road, the food was more memorable than the wine: well-made quiches and flans, and interesting salads such as celery, orange, and walnut.

There are over a dozen more to be had by the glass, including sparkling Alsace Terringer at 30p, but the house Beaujolais seemed indifferent, and though they serve Buck's Fizz at 45p for half a pint, you will still have to go to Buck's Club to squeeze a made with a freshly squeezed orange. More seriously, a customer's miniature managerial rebuke to walk on a table top. Another Wolsey's tried in Harrington Road, SW7, had similar virtues, but poorer food.

For the purposes of this article, at least half a dozen wine bars were tried, across a wide spectrum from Motcomb's in SW1 (long skirts and the Balgravis manner) to Shir-

reffs in Great Castle Street (vine extension of the ABC Club) and on to Yates Wine Lodge in the Strand where "red-eyed ladies half as old as time sit in the Russian tram-car seats, and you can do quite well with the sausages, the Amontillado, or the Manzanilla, the Châteaufort du Tapp and the white port. Motcomb's had some interesting wines, tolerably priced (Ch La Tour Bicheron '66, chateau-bottled, £2.25) but the food was as erratic as it so often is in smart amateur London restaurants: delicious fresh salmon with courgettes and real mayonnaise; sordid and burnt and near-raw sausage meat in a stuffed pepper.

Balls Brothers wine bar in the Strand had a pubby atmosphere, and neither the food nor the wines, bettered the admittedly unusual range of both to be found in the Helvetia in Old Compton Street, Soho.

But two other bars seem to deserve individual mention. At the Cork and Bottle in Cranbourne Street, hard by Leicester Square Tube, we found salads crisp and not badly dressed, and the bar staff young and meticulous. Half a bottle of Verdelho, £1.25, was chilled, dry, and pleasant, cost 85p; numerous other wines (including a dozen by the glass) are written up, at reasonable prices, round the room, which is adequate to sit in, without exactly beguiling the eye.

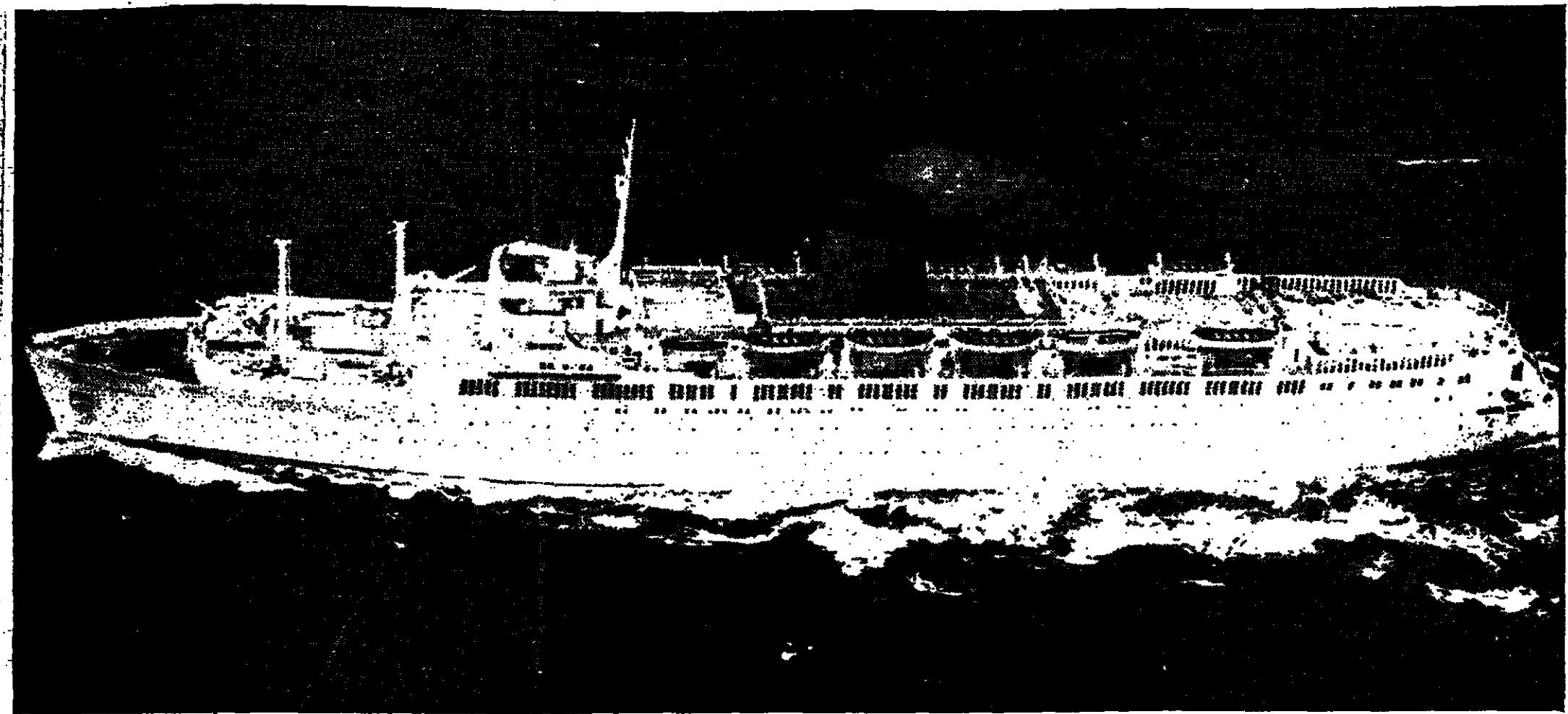
At Coates in Old Broad Street (there is another branch in London Wall, and both are operated by the wine merchants Corney and Barrow) it is surprisingly difficult to discover precisely what wines are being poured for you. A tankard when a bumper-sized glass of their No 3 claret or Côtes de Brouilly costs 62p. But of six different wines by the glass tried (Zeltinger, Blanc de Blanc, the two just mentioned, Sercial, and Bual) the latter was decent, and some better than that. (The Moselle, the claret, and the Sercial made the best trio.) Moreover, the atmosphere and the middle-aged men who serve are reassuringly rational and trouble is taken with the food. Both upstairs and downstairs, an impression of spaciousness is achieved by polished wood and long mirrors. Downstairs, generous helpings of chicken-and-ham pie and rare roast beef with routine salads cost £1.40 the two. Upstairs there were sandwiches, and also a most rare and welcome sight, under its glass cover, a rich, moist home-made fruit cake, which begged to be eaten with a glass of Madeira, and was, at the comparatively modest price of 82p for two glasses and two helpings.

Details: Gyngleboey, 27 Spring Street, W.2 01-713 3351; Wolsey's Wine Bar, 198 Fulham Road, SW10 01-352 1153; Motcomb's, 26 Motcomb Street, SW1 01-239 6381; Shirreff's, 15 Great Castle Street, W1 01-580 2125; Yates Wine Lodge, 417 Strand, WC2 01-536 0654; Balls Brothers, 142 Strand, WC2 01-836 0156; Cork and Bottle, 44/46 Cranbourne Street, WC2 01-734 7807/6592; Coates, 109 Old Broad Street, EC2 01-588 7443.

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Travel

Why a cruise may not always be plain sailing



Ocean Monarch: A fine ship, but there are areas of complaint

The 26,000-ton liner Ocean Monarch is getting on in years, especially when passengers are buffet lunches there and left cardboard plates and plastic cutlery on chairs and tables.

pool up on the boat deck was quickly littered each day, especially when passengers are buffet lunches there and left cardboard plates and plastic cutlery on chairs and tables.

profit. It is made more difficult by the company's decision early this year that there would be no additional surcharge on fares, following the 10 per cent increase announced last December.

in his pockets or scratching his scalp. Now it is important to get into focus the type of cruise holiday that Shaw Savill offers—and will be offering next year.

I mentioned earlier that Shaw Savill has the difficult task of keeping fares at a reasonable level while overheads soar. To cut standards of service is no solution, for this alienates passengers.

one's home and Southampton in the fare. Next year, passengers who travel to Southampton by car will have the benefit of free storage for the duration of the cruise.

Bridge Uses and abuses

The weak opening No Trump, ranging in strength from 11 to 13 points, is popular because it puts a high premium on defensive bidding and play.

South showed courage in venturing to bid at the four level on three points, but he was rewarded when West led a small heart. His two diamonds went away on the OAK and he led the 46 from dummy to the 4Q and 4A.

the full certainty of my 17 years. "Yes", said Bronowski, "that's what I'm always telling him." In fact, Bronowski played quite a lot of chess when he was up at Cambridge University.

White: M. Basman. Black: Schuering. Sicilian Defence. 1. P-K4 P-Q4 2. N-K3 P-Q4 3. B-K2 P-Q4

role of chairman of a Chess Brains Trust. I remember too how struck he was with a remark I made about the right way of utilizing your opponent's time trouble.

K4 and though he too lost, the fault lay in his pawn grabbing. 9. B-K1 Q-Q2 10. B-B2 K-K1 11. Q-Q2 K-K1 12. P-K1 K-BP

Saturday Bazaar Appears this week on Page 25

Edward Mayer Three and a half years later on holiday at a seaside resort on the southern coast I had a number of conversations with a worried looking gentleman in my boarding house while the rain was falling.

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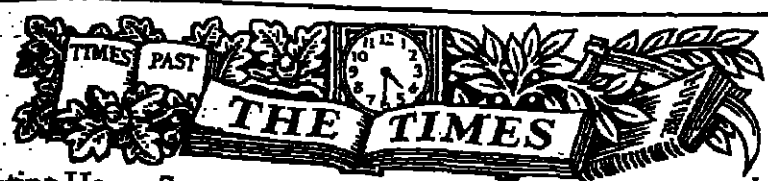
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CAN ONE ASSUME A U-TURN?

Whatever government is elected next Thursday is going to have to deal immediately with the pay explosion and is going to have to deal with it in a way that is not likely to be the inevitable challenge from the trade unions. The Ford dispute is an indication of the rising pressure from inflationary wage settlements. The offer, which has been turned down, comes only seven months after the last Ford settlement; it is an offer of 38.6 per cent for two years and it would bring the settlements in the current year above 30 per cent.

This is not the only very high settlement which is being or has been negotiated. Local settlements on top of the apparently reasonable 14 per cent of the national engineering settlement have gone up to annual rates this year in many cases of 25 per cent or above. Both the earnings and the hourly wage indices show a surge in wage settlements after the ending of pay control, the last available three months on the earnings index, which do not include the engineering settlement, show an annual rate of over 46 per cent. This rate should be discounted for special factors, but even when it is discounted it leaves a figure which is not supportable by the British economy.

At the same time the militancy of the National Union of Mine-workers, which challenged and destroyed the Heath administration, has been confirmed by the defeat of Mr Gormley and the moderates on the productivity agreement. This will cost miners pay increases of up to £12 a week and will cost the country millions of tons of coal. The reason for the rejection is a desire to maintain the militant unity of the miners; it is a defeat not merely for Mr Gormley but for the Coal Board for the Government and for that idea of moderation in trade union relations on which the social contract is based.

The electorate has an unenviable choice. In Scotland many electors are going to opt out. They consider that Britain is now so badly run and has such deep conflicts that a small Scottish nation can handle its own affairs better. This election could well prove a striking major victory for Scottish Nationalists and may

lead to a major constitutional crisis in Scotland.

In England there is no such alternative. Those who vote for the Liberal or Conservative parties may well think that Mr Heath and Mr Thorpe are telling the truth about the danger of inflation, yet they saw the Heath Government, defeated by the miners in February, and they may well therefore believe that a new Heath Government, a Thorpe Government or a Liberal Conservative coalition would not be able to defeat the challenge of militancy.

Some of these electors will undoubtedly turn to the Labour Party not for their alliance with the trade unions but as our best protection against the extreme elements in the trade unions. They will believe that Mr Wilson is the only man who has a chance of defeating the Marxists in the trade unions, because as leader of the Labour Party he can appeal to the moderates in the trade union leadership.

At present the Government are appearing to assume that this confrontation will not happen. Indeed, they spend their time attacking the Conservatives for confronting with the trade unions. They are also arguing that the wages explosion can be brought under control without a statutory incomes policy, without a freeze and with a reflationary budget policy. The only policy they offer is the social contract, and that has no clear definition of commitment on either side. The Chancellor actually pretends that inflation has already been brought down to 8.4 per cent, and the Prime Minister backs him up in this dishonest pretence.

The electors are therefore having to consider reelecting a government committed to policies which plainly cannot succeed on the basis that the process of events may convert them. They will be voting for the U-turn that is bound to come. Indeed the only rational argument for voting for Mr Wilson is not that he can avoid a confrontation with the trade union militants, but that he is the man most likely to win it.

This has a certain plausibility. A Labour Government can draw on resources of loyalty in the trade unions which are still very strong. A Labour Government

would face trade union power with the support of the Liberal and Conservative opposition; a Conservative Government would face, as they did in February, trade union power backed by the Labour Party. Only a Labour Government can therefore face the unions with the power of Parliament and not merely with the authority of the parliamentary majority of the day.

Yet it must be remembered that Labour members of parliament were not prepared to back their own government when this issue last presented itself in a much milder form over *In Place of Strife*. Then Mr Wilson stood up to trade union power and like Mr Heath was defeated, but not because of massive strikes but because he could not rely on his own supporters. On this occasion he has gratuitously promised that there will be no freeze and has therefore given a pledge that will strengthen the resistance of the Left.

If a Labour Government is elected there can only be one of two outcomes; either they will bring the wage explosion under control or they will be destroyed as a government. For the moment sterling is holding up well, partly because Dr Kissinger's open antagonism on oil prices makes the middle eastern countries feel that sterling should be preserved as a friendly currency system; sterling is still a minor alternative to the dollar which for the Arabs is the currency of a potentially hostile power.

Yet this support from the oil countries depends on economic confidence not being gratuitously and totally destroyed. A few months more of the wage explosion would probably destroy it. If on top of the other inflationary pressures in our economy, and at a time of gathering world depression, the exchange rate were to collapse, then Britain would be launched into an uncontrolled and for a time uncontrollable inflation. We would suffer an economic catastrophe. It is the need to avoid this situation which will press the Labour Government, if they are returned, to confront militant trade union power; the question is whether they will have the courage or sense to do it.

From Mr Scott Atkinson
Sir, To one who returns home, after trying to win an export order against ruthless international competition, an order which would have kept several hundred people in work for over a year, there is an air of unreality about many of the distinguished contributions to your columns.

As a professional managing director, I have helped to manage, for over 30 years without a strike, a company whose overseas customers have provided a high standard of living for some 10,000 people. Our labour force and our plant are equal to those of our competitors, we have access to all the capital we need and, while we could substantially increase our turnover and employment it is beginning to decline.

The position was succinctly put to me by the Chief Engineer of the State Railways of a newly independent African country: "You people built our railways and we now use your expert staffs. We want to continue buying it, but we are a poor country and, if one of your competitors will deliver, on time, a shipment of goods in return for a shipment of our produce we will only offer three quarters of a load with uncertain delivery, then I must buy elsewhere; we have no welfare state and I will not ask my people to subsidise your country's economy. This is a typical export customer, educated in this country, of which he is a lifelong friend, and the products of his country are among those without which this country cannot live."

The purpose of this letter is to draw your attention, and especially the attention of parliamentary candidates, to the brutally competitive world of which so many of our correspondents seem to be ignorant.

Since the loss of empire we have become an economy rich only in skills, deficient in food and almost destitute of raw materials. Because of this, whatever government is in power, we are in a new form of society, our real standard of living will always depend on our ability to earn food and raw materials in the face of ruthless world competition which, in turn, means that we will have to accept the level of export remuneration which independent customers are prepared to pay. International competition is always "unfair", but especially to the losers.

In this context it is the worst possible disservice to the trades unions to talk, without qualifications, of their power, which is only effective in the face of captive customers at home. The ultimate boss of all of us now, whether we be government, trades unions or employers, is the independent overseas customer, raw material supplier and the only power that any of us have left to possess to satisfy him.

We may vote as we will, strike as we will, lock out, sit in or walk out but supplier-customers like my African friend will just send their orders and our wages elsewhere, if we are uncompetitive.

Inflation is caused, not by the commitment to full employment, but by the political pretence that we can have full employment at a wage level determined by so called bargaining at home between state monopolies and captive customers; there is no need to contemplate massive unemployment as a solution. If we are provided with a solution to accept employment at wage levels which our independent supplier-customers are prepared to pay; they do the bargaining now between us and our international competitors.

It is deemed "politically impossible" to say these things how, may I ask, in a country deficient in food and raw materials, is anything politically possible if it is not, first, economically possible in the context of the open world economy?

Yours faithfully,
SCOTT ATKINSON,
West Woods,
104 Feckingham Road,
Redditch,
Worcestershire,
September 25.

Electrical Contracting (the business of one of our subsidiaries) is an industry in no way special, either as being in the van or in the rear. In this area, the hourly rate for an approved electrician, as fixed by the Joint Industry Board, was 74p from April to December, 1973. The JIB proposed an increase to 100p for January 1, 1974, but this was cut by the Pay Board to 81p. When the board was dissolved on July 26, 1974, the JIB have also determined, and there has been no suggestion of Government opposition, that the rate should increase to 123p for January 1, 1975.

This will show an annual rate of increase of 32.6 per cent from January 1 to July 26, 1974, of 53.1 per cent from July 26, 1974 to January 1, 1975, and of 50.9 per cent from January 1, 1974 to January 1, 1975.

Yours faithfully,
R. W. BALDWIN, Director,
Century Securities Limited,
89 Oxford Street,
Manchester,
October 3.

Rate of pay rises
From Professor Lord Kahn
Sir, Sir Keith Joseph in his letter (October 1) addresses a question to me. I agree that when demand for labour is so high as to result in widespread scarcity of labour, wages rise faster than when demand is lower. I take this view whether or not such a high level of demand is deliberately created to expand employment with its own funding to the Government to manage the level of demand by fiscal means so as to prevent it from being too high.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
K.A.H.N.,
King's College,
Cambridge,
October 2.

Exhaustion of credit
From Mr Ian Peacock
Sir, It is scarcely surprising that Mr Healey was odd man out at the IMF meeting. The United States and Germany are in no danger of mass unemployment—their adjustment policies risk at most a period of a year or so of slowly declining GNP. What Mr Healey appreciates but obviously cannot say is that deflationary measures by the United States and Germany mean mass unemployment for the United Kingdom.

Although we can postpone the day of reckoning by import controls, by mortgaging our oil reserves or by permitting sterling to depreciate, our balance of payments situation is no bad that a substantial fall in living standards is necessary to correct it. At a guess it will be the exhaustion of overseas credit, rather than a deteriorating inflation situation, which will force the government elected next week to face this uncomfortable reality.

Yours faithfully,
IAN PEACOCK,
15 Whitehall Gardens,
Chiswick, W4,
October 2.

Indexing of wages
From Mr Walter Elkan
Sir, I do not quarrel with Professor Neild's figures, but only with the inferences he and his colleagues seem to draw from them, in the letter to you (October 2). As economists they are not likely to deny that what matters in the context of inflation is the total increase in pay, not the part of it which is in excess of threshold agreements. Indeed, the object of threshold agreements was to reduce the pressure for negotiated wage increases by "indexing" the pay of their recipients to increases in the cost of living and thus ensuring that pay kept pace with it.

The threshold increases have probably not been sufficient to do so, but to the extent that they have, many recent wage settlements differ from those of past years in that they have raised wages not from the level of a previous year's settlement but from a level which has been steadily suggested by threshold payments.

Professor Neild's recital of the statistics cannot be faulted, but whether it is wise in the midst of

an election campaign to give his views the special aura attaching to a Cambridge professor of economics is less certain, when they could easily be thought to have a political intent. He might retort that he has done no more than to "tell us the facts". But, alas, what constitute relevant facts is by no means always obvious, as must surely be manifest by now to anyone who is more concerned to find a really tenable explanation of inflation than to apportion blame.

Yours faithfully,
WALTER ELKAN,
5 Wood View,
Shincliffe,
Durham,
October 2.

Ulster power-sharing
From Mr J. Enoch Powell
Sir, A Mr O'Leary in the Department of Political Science at Belfast wants to know (October 4) "an alternative explanation" other than "electioneering purposes" of my rejection in 1973 of the power-sharing in Ulster under the 1973 Constitution. The answer he seeks is all over Hansard: I opposed "power-sharing" continuously since it was first put forward in 1972.

Yours faithfully,
J. ENOCH POWELL,
Banbridge,
Co Down,
October 4.

Changing capitalism
From Mr G. N. von Tunzelmann
Sir, Sir Keith Joseph's admiration for the philosophy of Joseph Schumpeter (misspelt as Schlumpeter in your issue of October 3) might well be tempered by the conclusion Schumpeter reached in his celebrated work "The Instability of Capitalism" (even the author apologized for the terrible phrasing of this sentence). "... Capitalism while economically stable, and even gaining in stability, creates, by rationalizing the human mind, a mentality and a style of life incompatible with its own fundamental conditions, motives and social institutions, and will be changed, although not by economic necessity and probably even at some sacrifice of economic welfare, into an order of things which it will alter by a massive use of technical knowledge to call socialism or not." (Economic Journal, 1928).

Yours faithfully,
G. N. VON TUNZELMANN,
St John's College,
Cambridge,
October 3.

Voluntary unemployment
From Miss Olive Stevenson
Sir, My purpose in writing to you about voluntary unemployment (September 23) was to draw attention to the diverse characteristics of men sometimes lumped together under that head. It never crossed my mind that Sir Keith, who is exceptionally well placed to know about such matters, would want to make such a group into a scapegoat but I feared the consequences of his remarks since the issue is one in which emotion tends to take over from reason.

Unfortunately, the last paragraph of his response (October 1) fans the flames of the very issue I had hoped to cool. As I read it, the old jingle—"God bless the spirit and the relations and keep us in our proper stations" kept crossing my mind. I am neither an economist nor a historian and so cannot refute Sir Keith's assertion that "since the Stone Age" there has been a progression towards more interesting work. It is, however, my impression that the industrial revolution created severe, as yet unresolved, problems of alienation of men from the end product of their labours, thus making hard work less rewarding.

Be that as it may, argument amongst politicians as to whether (ie the others) dislike monotonous and repetitive work as much as "we" would is not only pointless. Its bland superiority is offensive.

The only honest way of debating it is on the basis of evidence. This we, in our search, have attempted. From various sources we learn that many men find work on (for example) car assembly lines soul and intellect destroying. Most family

men stick it out because the financial rewards enable them to do more for their wives and children. Although we have some sad stories of the despair and misery which they experience.)

Some young single men opt out, though I must repeat what Sir Keith ignores, that the long term unemployed (as distinct from the frequently unemployed) are mostly in the older age groups. In fact some told us they deliberately changed jobs frequently as a way of combating monotony. Their disenchantment raises two questions.

First, by what right do "we" condemn them for so doing? (Does Sir Keith really mean that "they" ought to work to sustain "us" in our rewarding activities?)

Secondly, if the moral issue is rejected as irrelevant, should we not at least accept the dangers to society of a situation in which some men are profoundly dissatisfied with the nature of work they are expected to perform day in, day out? We would be wise to pay attention to the implications for industrial unrest and social instability.

Yours sincerely,
OLIVE STEVENSON,
Reader in Applied Social Studies,
Department of Social and Administrative Studies,
University of Oxford,
28 Little Clarendon Street, Oxford,
October 2.

Scotland overlooked
From Sir Edmund Hudson
Sir, Mr Heath in his speech yesterday (October 1) in Glasgow pointed to the "breath-taking irresponsibility" of those who want Scotland to take the lead in breaking up the United Kingdom. Those in Scotland who agree with his view (though strongly in favour of various brands of devolution) are, I feel sure, in a large majority. But they can be brought to the point of despair by such an article as that which you published this Monday—"Is there a William Pitt in the House?" written by someone described as a Research Fellow at New College, Oxford.

Mr Ian Bradley writes of the period around 1783, some three-quarters of a century after the Act of Union, and says (but not all) of those who did not speak or write in terms of "England". He may think it mere pedantry to object to his own descriptions of the political and economic movements of that period, and his comparisons with our present times, almost exclusively in terms of "England".

But sentiment is a part of politics, and accuracy should be a part of scholarship. It is the parochial arrogance and the bland disrespect for constitutional propriety of the likes of Mr Bradley which provide not a little of the fuel to stoke the separatist fires which now burn in the Scottish nationalist movement. I am, yours etc.,
EDMUND HUDSON,
63 Ravelston Dykes,
Edinburgh,
October 2.

Voteless in EEC
From Mr D. R. Digby
Sir, Many thousands of British subjects working in the EEC with varying degrees of permanence are completely disenfranchised—they have no vote either in the United Kingdom or in their host countries.

In all the talk of "referendum" relating to United Kingdom membership of the EEC, are we equally to be kept in the cold?

Yours faithfully,
D. R. DIGBY,
Avenue Astrid, 36
B-1640 Rhode-St-Genese,
September 27.

Paying for chaos
From Mr Alan Wykes
Sir, 500 a year each to bring the country to chaos? I will undertake to do the same job single-handed and more efficiently for half the total sum.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN WYKES,
382 Tilchester Road,
Reading,
October 2.

THE BURDEN OF HIGHER BENEFITS

Attention has recently focused on the likely rise in National Insurance contributions for the self-employed. Opposition centres on the proposal that the self-employed should be required to pay a contribution of 8 per cent on their earnings between the levels of £1,600 and £3,600 a year. The situation is left in the air because the Bill, the Social Security Amendment Bill, 1974, which would have enacted this proposal lapsed with the Dissolution.

There is nothing new in the notion that the self-employed should make a substantial contribution and that this should be graduated on earnings up to a given ceiling. The principle was enshrined in the last Government's 1973 Social Security Act. In this sense the graduated contribution from the self-employed merely mirrors the higher graduated pension contributions and benefits to which both this Government and the last have been committed.

The Labour Government were merely proposing to raise the limits in the 1973 Act from 5 per cent on earnings between £1,150 and £2,500 to 8 per cent on the higher band. They were at the same time proposing to raise the respective figures for earnings-related contributions and benefits for the regularly employed.

The central problem is not one that is confined to the self-employed. It relates in general to the whole future of the social security system in this period of high inflation. The clear requirement, from one side, is that the cash value of benefits should be increased, if they are to have effective value as the worth of money erodes. On the other side, however, higher levels of benefits can only be financed by taxation or by higher contributions. We are rapidly reaching the stage where the level of contributions is a major burden for those on PAYE, employers and the self-employed alike.

There are only two ways in which this problem could be

eased. Either society in general should accept that the level of social security benefits be reduced in real terms over time by the process of inflation; or the direct Treasury contribution should be increased substantially. It is, however, generally assumed that the public wants its social security arrangements to be improved over the years, rather than the reverse. Equally, it is generally assumed that the capacity of central taxation to meet new commitments is severely limited.

Against this background, however, there is an issue of equity at stake, so far as the self-employed are concerned. The whole social security system is moving gradually towards a system where contributions and benefits are both graduated and more closely related. It seems that, under the proposals which have lapsed, the self-employed would be paying contributions at the highest rate, while not qualifying for the full range of benefits. There can be no justification for this inequity.

Mr Heath's statistics
From Mr R. W. Baldwin
Sir, Mr Foot challenges Mr Heath to produce examples of wage increases above 40 per cent per annum. Perhaps the following will serve.

Yours faithfully,
SARAH WELLS, Chairman, World Development Movement,
BRIAN WALKER, Director, Oxfam,
PETER BURNS, General Secretary, War on Want,
EDWARD ROGERS, General Secretary, Social Responsibility Division, Methodist Church,
JOHN REARDON, Secretary, Church and Society Department, United Reformed Church,
FRANK FIELD, Director, United Nations Association,
As from World Development Movement, Bedford Chambers, Covent Garden, WC2.

Remember the tax man cometh, inevitably
From Mr William Douglas-Horne
Sir, A week or so ago my telephone rang one morning and an unknown voice asked me for £26,000.

"Who is it?" I asked, suspecting some joker.

"The Inland Revenue in Chichester," it answered.

I refrained from asking if it was speaking from the back of a large black horse and wearing a mask and a brace of pistols. Instead, I gave it my accountant's telephone number in London.

But, as I replaced the receiver, I thought to myself: "Good God, so this is my reward for faithfully carrying out my side of a productivity agreement, based on the fact that my wages fluctuate in exact proportion to the number of people who buy seats for my plays. Nothing inflammatory about that; sound, sensible, wholly commendable endeavour, a reward for industry and all the rest of it. And yet, just as I am contemplating retirement and a full life devoted to golf and horse-racing and bridge, I am rung up by this highwayman from Chichester!"

And then, since I am a benign fellow, my thoughts took a more philosophical line and I said to myself: "OK. So be it. I am a lucky fellow compared with many others, my factory is running smoothly at the moment, no strikes, no go-slows, and even though a vast proportion of my income, all earned by the sweat of my brow, is hijacked by the Chancellor, I am at least contributing, on a very large scale, to the welfare of my fellow citizens and making an effort to discover why there should have been unrest in Britain with taxation at its present level.

And, inevitably, they will blame it on the politics of envy. And they will be right.

But what is there to envy? That is my last thought. By all means, let us have equality, but not by levelling down—levelling up, rather. Personally, I cannot wait for the day when each working man and woman in this country has the same income as I have, based on productivity.

But, when that happens, let them all remember that, inevitably as night follows day, the telephone will ring from Chichester one morning, or from any other highwayman's headquarters, and a voice will ask for £25 or £26 or every hundred, earned through honest toil and sweat and tears. And I shall laugh. I must confess to that. And why not? After all, there is no tax on laughter—anyway, not yet.

I am Sir, etc.,
WILLIAM DOUGLAS-HORNE,
Travellers Club, SW1,
October 1.

Pugin chapel at Douai
From Dom Geoffrey Scott
Sir, Your report (October 2) that the Pugin chapel in the Lycée de Filles at Douai would probably be included in the list of 200 buildings scheduled for preservation brought great relief to me, as it will also, no doubt, to Sir John Betjeman.

Last August I paid a visit to the lycée, which was the home of the English Benedictine community, now settled here in Woolhampton, until they were expelled, not altogether justifiably, under the terms of the Association Laws in 1903. The mosaic buildings which now comprise the lycée were largely maintained by income derived from

Direct grant schools

From Mr Guy King-Reynolds
Sir, The Headmaster of Norwich School raises a pertinent question when he asks how the Labour manifesto's "working people" are helped by turning schools that can afford to attend into schools beyond their pockets.

There are many service families who, even with the Services Boarding Grant, are only able to afford the boarding facilities essential for their children's education in Direct Grant Schools, and the proposed withdrawal of the Direct Grant Regulations would seem to face them with an insuperable problem at a time when the maintained sector's limited boarding facilities (estimated at not much more than 10,000 places) are being further reduced.

In this school where boarders outnumber day pupils by over three to two, one-third of the pupils (or 42 per cent of the boarders) have service parents with fathers of all ranks who urgently and frequently ask "What shall we do?" They are anxiously awaiting an answer.

Yours faithfully,
GUY KING-REYNOLDS,
Headmaster,
Norwich School,
Dunsmuir's School,
West Lavington,
near Devizes, Wiltshire.

Plight of poor countries

From Miss Sarah Wells and others
Sir, We are depressed by the inward-looking character of the three major parties in their election manifestos. The plight of the poor countries of the world, who suffer to an infinitely greater degree than we do from soaring oil and food prices, is either ignored or flippantly laughed off.

The Liberals look no further than Britain. The Conservatives acknowledge the Commonwealth as a stabilising influence which helps to create the necessary conditions for the expansion of British trade. The Labour Party talks of trying to move the UN aid target of 0.7 per cent of the GNP, but this is an old and increasingly thin cry, the more so since they have not even named a date by which this is to be achieved.

In the face of a changed world economy where the interdependence of nations is clearer than ever before, all three parties are being dangerously short-sighted. The dangerously short-sighted are being asked to deal with inflation so that Britain can return to the halcyon days of rapid growth and increasing prosperity. But this is one world in which we cannot increase our prosperity in isolation and in which we must work for an equitable distribution of the world's resources across all nations and all peoples.

Our political leaders should be questioning the consumption patterns which have driven us to our present state through our profligate demands on the world's raw materials at the expense of ourselves and above all the world's poor. The time has come when we must realise that we were being exploited, have kicked back and others may follow suit to their own advantage, but the majority of poor countries have no such resources to use as a sanction against the rich.

Instead of cooperating with the

Alexander Pope's school

From Mr James Goldsbury
Sir, David Wickham's letter (The Times, October 1) on Alexander Pope's school is most interesting, and comes as a coincidence. For the death occurred quite recently of A. C. F. Beales, whose notable book *Education under Penalty: English Catholic Education from the Reformation to the fall of James II, 1567-1689*, received mention in the obituary columns of The Times in appreciation of the late scholar.

The history of the schools at Silkstead-Twyford, scene of the education of the juvenile Alexander Pope, will be found on pages 217-222. In 1695 Silkstead is stated as having nearly 80 pupils.

A footnote referring to the *Story of Twyford School*, C. J. Wickham (1903), will probably have a touch of family interest for your correspondent.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
JAMES GOLDSBURY,
75 Bingham Road,
Radcliffe-on-Trent,
Nottingham.

Supply of trees

From Mr R. S. Hopking
Sir, As an antidote for Simon Klinger's fear that inflation is bringing about wholesale felling of our woodlands and copses (October 1), may I mention the example of Lord Nelson who walked about his native Norfolk planting acorns in order to replenish the supply of oak trees which had been felled to build ships for the defence of our shores.

This has been an outstanding year for seed crops of all kinds, and oak trees are no exception. Let everyone now go out into the countryside to gather a pocketful of acorns and plant them in our gardens and any spare space. Since acorns do not keep, they must be planted immediately—preferably before the general election. We have to start somewhere to rebuild this country of ours.

Yours faithfully,
R. S. HOPKING, Founder,
The Commemorative Tree Company,
The Dover House,
Castle Hedingham, Essex.

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Katyn memorial

From Mr D. A. MacMaster
Sir, Regarding the Katyn memorial controversy, surely a spot could be found in the Brompton Oratory, or its spacious grounds, for a simple plaque commemorating the tragic massacre.

As one who quite frequently worships there, I know the church to be popular with the Polish community.

Such a move would obviate any risk of offending those residents around St Luke's Gardens who oppose the scheme, and who have every right to do so.

There are already too many monuments proclaiming man's inhumanity to man in Europe. In this instance, a token of Christian forgiveness and toleration, placed

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SPORT

Football

Hopes of British Isles being in the third round are not high

By Geoffrey Green Football Correspondent
The draw for the second round of the European Cup...

European second round draws

European Cup: Anderlecht (Belgium) v Olympiakos (Greece)...

That jaded Leeds feeling might help Mee

By Norman Fox
Sleazebag bounced off the car park...

Weekend fixtures

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated
First division
Birmingham v Coventry

Second division

Rickford v Hull C
Bolton v Gillingham

Scottish first division

Airdrie v Dundee Utd
Ayr v Partick Thistle

Scottish second division

Brechin v Clydebank
East Fife v Albion

Television highlights

BBC 1
Football: Preview (12.35)
Rugby League: Match of the Day (10.20)

BBC 2

Rugby Union: England Under-23 v Tonga (7.25)

Armfield is joining at a busy time

By Geoffrey Green Football Correspondent
The saga of the Leeds United manager...

Card of course

Hole Yds Par Hole Yds Par
576 5 10 360 4

Yesterday's results

Third division
Tottenham 3, Millwall 0
Fourth division
Cambridge Utd 1, Southampton 0

Rugby Union

Tour match
New Zealand 23 v Tonga 10

Hockey

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Barnet v Brentford

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Andretti sets lap record in practice

From John Blunsden
Mario Andretti, the Italian-born naturalized American...

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Brown recalled by Oldham

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By Pamela Macgregor-Morris
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Gallacher: one stroke clear and the fifth leader of the week.

Leading third round scores

Table with columns for player name, score, and other details.

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SPORT

Rugby Union

Tongans must beware of losing their host of British friends

By Peter West
Rugby Correspondent
After the hammering they took at the hands of Scotland last week, the Tongans may feel they are fighting something more akin to their own weight by entering the final round of the Under-23 tournament today.

Hockey

London is stirring back to life again

By Sydney Friskin
The hockey weekend of brisk activity and high promise begins today. Ten teams are assembling at Liverpool for the eighth festival tournament of the Northern Club and the London League is set back to life with eight interesting matches.

At present the past has a future

By Richard Streeton

Any new cricket book which is broad in concept, massive in size and rich in material, belongs to a species rare at the present time. The economics of publishing alone see to that. It was therefore startling to receive this week a country history which covers almost 100 years in depth, nearly 700 pages or 300,000 words, heavily illustrated and most important of all, rewarding to read.



Two famous Warwickshire cricketers. Bob Wyatt (left) in 1930 and Eric Hollies, a great spin bowler, seen going out to bat in his last match in 1957.

Wyatt was depressed from the captivity and later his move to Worcestershire, are especially under-estimated. Eric Hollies is delightfully portrayed and the story ends with the 1972 championship success.

Ruling on county replacements from RFU

The Rugby Football Union (RFU) has decided to leave it to the individual groups in the county championship to decide their own replacement rules. Replacements are being used in county cricket and knock-out games from the first round of the competition for the first time this season.



Saville: injured and out of action for five weeks.

Park have a useful new recruit in Bann, the experienced Leicester lock, who makes his first appearance alongside Rodgers, who is fit again. Mansell is playing for the England Under-23 side against Tonga, so Signell moves to the back row.

Cricket

Greig says he did not give interview

Tony Greig, the Sussex and England cricketer, has denied, through his Brighton solicitors, that he gave an interview to the Melbourne Herald in which he was critical of certain aspects of the selection for the forthcoming MCC tour of Australia.

Boxing

McAlinden out on his feet

The British and Commonwealth heavyweight championship contest between Danny McAlinden, the holder, and Bunny Johnson at the Civic Hall, Wolverhampton, on Tuesday has been postponed. McAlinden has influenza and will not be fit to box for some time.

Athletics

Thompson and Mrs Smith head the polls

Ian Thompson, the Luton runner who has thrilled the sporting world with his marathon exploits, has been voted Athlete of the Year by the British Athletics Writers' Association. Thompson, aged 24, of Luton United, came first with 54 votes, 13 more than Brendan Foster.

Business notices section containing various advertisements for services like 'Partners for Yacht', 'National Weekly Racing Newspaper', and 'Businesses for Sale'.

Postal and Weekend Shopping also on page 26

RUSH MATTING ZIP LINK BEDS advertisement. Features: Rush matting creates a warm and friendly atmosphere and wears well. Our beds are made in any length or width. Includes a FREE Brochure.

Hand Carved Pine Mantels advertisement. Features: Adam Mantels, Hart of Knightsbridge. Includes a price list for various mantel sizes.

MEN'S conventional TROUSERS advertisement. Features: Cavalry Twill & Terylene Worsted. Includes a price list for various trouser styles and sizes.

Setting the style from FINLAND advertisement. Features: Ramblers Jackets, Special 'To You' offer. Includes an image of a man in a jacket.

CONTINENTAL QUILT COVERS advertisement. Features: Matching Pillowslips and Bedfills. Includes a price list for various quilt sizes.

SOGAR DESIGNS LTD advertisement. Features: 100 Magnets, How to make a Duvet. Includes images of magnets and a duvet.

Save on CASSETTE TAPE RECORDERS advertisement. Features: Various cassette recorder models and prices.

SHAPED CAR COVERS advertisement. Features: Various car cover models and prices.

LIQUID LEATHER advertisement. Features: Various leather goods and prices.

Personal Column advertisement. Features: Personal Column advertisement rates, Ring 01-837 3311.

UNDERBED CHEST advertisement. Features: Underbed chest with drawers, price £2.75.

ATTICA advertisement. Features: Attica building and services, contact information.

HOPE'S advertisement. Features: Sewing machine, Super Awl, contact information.

THE TIMES BUSINESS NEWS

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Whitehall study of industry investment plans likely to show sharp deterioration

By Maurice Corina
Industrial Editor.

A sharp and significant deterioration in manufacturing industry's vital capital investment programmes is expected to be disclosed in an official Government survey due to be released on Monday.

Results of inquiries made by the Department of Industry among at least 250 of the largest companies about their investment intentions for next year and 1976 will almost certainly confirm industrialists' warnings after the Chancellor's Budget that spending on modernization will suffer.

The last major survey of the investment outlook was undertaken by the Confederation of British Industry during the summer, when it was reported that returns from a sample of 1,221 businesses recorded "a striking collapse in business optimism" and deteriorating investment programmes.

Monday's departmental inquiry is Whitehall's own reliable guide to capital expenditure trends and the Treasury uses it for economic forecasting purposes.

When the Department of Industry last asked companies about their plans—including major concerns, who also supplied figures—the result was, in official words, "a substantial weakening of intentions". But the Chancellor was cautious about this finding because of the confusion resulting from the energy crisis and the dramatic impact of the three-day week on management's short-term priorities.

A fall in the volume of investment next year has been expected but the latest survey is important because it will test a forecast in June that it would be smaller than any drop recorded between 1974 and 1973.

The level of spending in 1975 and beyond is important because the capital schemes take some years to reach their conclusion and produce benefits. And the years are all the more vital given the steady arrival of supplies of North Sea oil.

All the evidence in recent months, if annual reports and individual statements of industrialists are to be believed, is that industry has not had enough resources or the confidence to

Chase bank calls in FBI over securities

New York, Oct. 4.—Chase Manhattan Bank has called in the FBI to examine the circumstances under which certain of its securities holdings were valued at falsely high levels, overstating actual earnings.

Chase has not made any public statement on whether it believes a crime was involved. But under Federal law banks are required to contact the FBI if there is suspicion of a violation of the criminal code. Under the code, falsifying bank records, even internal ledgers, is a criminal offence.

Earlier this week the bank disclosed that a spot check had shown that its bond trading portfolio had been valued at above actual market prices.

Revaluation of the \$800m portfolio, Chase said, will result in an after-tax charge of about \$15m against earnings.

That will mean profit for the first nine months of this year will be little changed from that registered in the same 1973 period, a far cry from the at least 10 per cent gain expected in 1974.

Anthony Wedgwood Benn's scheme for planning agreements and other measures has had its effect on confidence, whether manufacturers' fears are well founded or not.

Fresh signs that US economy is drifting deeper into a recession

By Melvyn Westlake

There were fresh signs yesterday that the United States economy is drifting deeper into recession. Unemployment rose sharply last month, according to figures released by the Labour Department. The total level of jobless now stands at its highest for 21 years.

On Wall Street, stock prices continued to decline sharply during trading session in spite of cuts in prime rates by two of the country's largest banks.

Later there was a partial recovery. The Dow Jones industrial average closed 3.05 points down at 584.26 after a rise of \$80.13 in mid-session. This followed a fall of 13.92 points the previous day when the index fell below 600 for the first time for 12 years.

On the international foreign exchange the dollar declined sharply.

The percentage of American workers without jobs in September stood at 5.8 per cent after the largest monthly rise since January. The number of jobless—now 5,312,000, seasonally adjusted—has been creeping up during most of the past year, reaching 5.1 per cent in August. This rise in unemployment was reported to be widespread.

A 1 percentage point cut, to 11 1/2 per cent, in the prime rate was announced by the First National City Bank of New York and Bank of America.

Some decline from the record 12 per cent prime rate had been expected for some days.

But the reduction appeared to be viewed by some investors as a further indication of recession, rather than a hopeful sign of a relaxation in the tight monetary policy of the Federal Reserve Board.

A sequence of bad economic news has added to the general gloom displayed both on Wall Street and on the foreign exchanges. Just over a week ago a record United States trade deficit was announced for August, largely as a result of soaring import costs. Forecasts

Fiat to put 71,000 workers on short time

Fiat, Italy's biggest private employer, announced yesterday that 71,000 workers would go on short time from Monday because of falling car sales. Of those 65,000 are from Fiat itself, which has a workforce of 200,000 engaged on engineering and other activities besides motor car manufacture, and 6,000 from its subsidiary, Laucia.

The company is reported to have unsold stocks of 300,000 cars—a fifth of annual production. But the unions maintain that the management is over-dramatising the situation. The company's difficulties are expected to have repercussions throughout industry.

New Herstatt Bank quotas proposed

New quotas for creditors of the Herstatt Bank could be ready by the middle of next week, said Herstatt's liquidator, Hans-Joachim Vogel.

The company is reported to have unsold stocks of 300,000 cars—a fifth of annual production. But the unions maintain that the management is over-dramatising the situation. The company's difficulties are expected to have repercussions throughout industry.

Protest over petrol outlets

By David Young

In a 106-page submission to the Office of Fair Trading, the Petroleum Retailers' Association says the major oil companies have an unacceptable level of control over retail petrol markets that adds the level of control is likely to have an adverse effect on the motorist.

This will probably increase, says the association, unless the Government reinstates the limit on the number of petrol stations oil companies can own.

It is claimed by the association that 60 per cent of petrol sold by the international oil companies is sold at filling stations which they own or control.

In 1966 the Monopolies Commission recommended that it could be expected to work against the public interest if companies sold more than 15 per cent of their petrol through stations which they owned, but this control was abandoned in 1968.

The main companies, says the report, all told the Monopolies Commission that they had no intention of operating sites themselves, but since then virtually all of them have expanded their filling operations.

They also undertook not to limit lubricant products sold from their stations, but there is evidence that this is largely being ignored, says the report.

It is also claimed in the report that the leases and licences under which some operators derive the retailers of any independence.

The Office of Fair Trading is currently reviewing the undertakings made by the oil companies in 1966.

This review is expected to be completed early in 1975, and by then the Office of Fair Trading will also have decided if there is to be a new reference to the Monopolies Commission to investigate the subject of petrol company involvement in the retail sector.

Saudi Arabian pledge not to reduce oil flow

Washington, Oct. 4.—Saudi Arabia will not cut back its oil production, even if the world price of oil falls, Shaikh Ahmed Yamani, the Oil Minister, promised today.

He said, however, that oil exports from the Arab nations could be cut off again by a new Middle East war, which he said would occur unless agreement was reached on the return of Arab lands held by Israel and settlement of the Palestinian refugee problem.

Shaikh Yamani was speaking in a panel discussion sponsored by the American Enterprise Institute. Other panel members included Senator Henry Jackson, Mr John Sawhill, the United States Energy Administrator, and Mr Donald Macdonald, the Canadian Minister for Energy.

Yamani said that a worldwide energy conservation effort would have an effect on oil prices, Shaikh Yamani said this would bring prices down unless some nations cut back on production.

"We will not cut down on our production," he added. He said there was disagreement among members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) on what the price of oil should be.

"We do have countries who think the price should go to \$15 to \$17 (about £6.50-£7.50) per barrel. Others, like Saudi Arabia, think the price should go down," he said. The price is now about \$11 a barrel.

Shaikh Yamani suggested a conference of OPEC members, oil-consuming nations, and developing countries to discuss the price and supply of oil.

Fred Emery writes from Washington: Senator Jackson, a Democratic presidential contender, told Shaikh Yamani that the producers ought to be selling oil to the poor countries between 15p and 18p a barrel so that they could produce their own desperately needed fertilizer. A heated exchange ensued.

The Shaikh retorted: "We can build enough fertilizer plants to feed the world."

Senator Jackson said: "We are sitting on a time bomb."

Shaikh Yamani made some soothing noises, however, insisting "confrontation won't help anyone."

Bougainville Copper deal concluded

By Andrew Wilson
Mining Correspondent

Bougainville Copper and the Papua New Guinea government have finally reached agreement in principle on the new copper mine which the major copper mine will operate. It appears that the negotiations, which began in April, were helped to a satisfactory conclusion by the personal intervention of Sir Val Duncan, chairman of Rio Tinto-Zinc which has a net 43 1/2 per cent stake in Bougainville.

While the full details will be worked out and announced next week—these cover terms of the mining lease, the new tax structure and other financial matters, and social issues—it seems that the outcome for Bougainville is more favourable than expected.

Ahead of the full terms, it emerges that the company will pay tax on the whole of its profits, at the standard corporation tax rate of 33 per cent and with a marginal excess profits tax on profits above an undisclosed figure ranging up to 70 per cent. For the first six months of 1974, Bougainville's other profits totalled \$452m (\$119m about £38m to £76m), thanks to the high copper price, but said that the full year figures would be similar to last year's \$415m.

Shareholder approval will be sought for the final agreement. Mr Michael Somers, PNC's chief minister, said yesterday that in addition to ensuring the future good relationship between the government and Bougainville, the agreement would also ensure a fair financial return to the company.

Since 1964 and 1967, Conting Rio Tinto of Australia had spent \$4m on exploration work on Bougainville island. The 1967 agreement was passed at the time when it was thought that the deposit would produce only 70,000 tonnes of copper in concentrates rather than the 183,000 tonnes actually won last year.

Vauxhall men meet as Chrysler strike ends

By R. W. Shakespeare

Motor industry convulsions over pay demands, which have put it at the centre of election controversy about the validity of Labour's social contract with the unions, took turns in two different directions yesterday.

The top paid toolroom workers at Chrysler's Coventry plants decided to call off their strike and allow an inquiry by the Conciliation and Arbitration Service into their demands for a further pay increase only three months after their last wages settlement.

At the same time union and shop floor negotiators representing Vauxhall Motors' 36,000 workers held a meeting to decide on their next moves over a claim for an interim wage settlement similar to that which has led Ford to offer to abandon its Phase Three wage agreement and put forward its big new pay proposals.

The decision by the Chrysler toolroom men, whose strike had stopped all engine production in Coventry and made 4,250 other workers idle, ends the American-owned car firm out of its immediate crisis.

However, the move has come too late to prevent lay-offs among car assembly workers at Ryton, Coventry, and Linwood in Scotland, on Monday. This is because there are now no engine supplies in the pipeline and several thousand workers will have to miss shifts until stocks are built up again. Meanwhile the workers already laid off from the Stoke, Coventry, engines factory are being recalled.

Chrysler's latest problems, which were on the point of being brought to a standstill, centre on a claim by the 320 toolroom workers that their pay rates have fallen below the average for toolroom workers in the Coventry area.

From July their last pay deal took effect, the Chrysler men have been getting a basic £34.57 for a 40-hour week plus a £1.20 a week "supplementary allowance".

The content of this is about £5 a week less than the Coventry toolroom average, while the company maintains that not only is this untrue but that any further concession to its toolroom men so soon after their last Phase Three deal would be bound to lead to fresh wage demands by the rest of its labour force.

The meeting of the Vauxhall negotiators, which took place in a quiet hotel a few miles from Chester, is ominous for the company. It clearly means that with the new Ford offer now before them the Vauxhall men are preparing to renew their demands for an interim wage settlement.

Franklin chief meeting FDIC officials

New York, Oct. 4.—Mr Joseph Barr, chairman of Franklin National Bank, met yesterday to meet officials of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation today to discuss whether the bank would continue as a Long Island bank or be taken over by another bank.

Mr Frank W. Yester, the FDIC chairman last yesterday, Mr Barr said "We are not now concerned about Franklin failing. The issue now before us is how Franklin will survive."

Mr Barr also restated his argument for providing continuation of Franklin National as a Long Island bank.

He urged that any resale by the FDIC should take place over a period of time FDIC to assume Franklin's municipal and corporate portfolio, saying the bank's compilations showed it had sufficient capital to secure its loan from the Federal Reserve estimated at about \$1,400m (£600m) as well as a \$100m potential loss to the FDIC.

Franklin would post collateral to indemnify the FDIC, Mr Barr said.—Reuter.

£5m orders placed

Orders worth £5m for two chemical tankers, have been placed with Scottish shipbuilders, Hall, Russell, which only two weeks ago cancelled a £3m contract with P & O because it has lost large numbers of skilled workers to the oil industry.

Jensen meeting

Management and workers representatives are to meet next week to discuss the situation at the Jensen Motors plant at West Bromwich where 100 non-production workers have been made redundant. The union has promised full cooperation to ensure continued production.

Port's £50m contract

Felixstowe's privately-owned container port has won a three-year £50m contract from the International Paper Company of New York.

Gold brightens dull market

Share prices on the London stock market yesterday had another poor session, although some leading stocks closed above their lowest levels after reports of Mr Healey's comments on the need to improve company liquidity and investment confidence.

The FT index closed 0.5 per cent off at 191.5, after 190.7, while The Times index, at 74.59, shed 0.46. Gold shares rose strongly on suggestions that the Arab states would demand payment in gold for oil sales. But shares in BP and Buxton closed at the close, when Wall Street was again falling. A bear squeeze lifted prices in the gilt-edged market.

Investors' week, page 23

Airlines fail to agree over transatlantic fares rise

By Arthur Reed
Air Correspondent

Airline industry plans for a new fares tariff on the north Atlantic from November 1 were thrown into confusion yesterday when talks between scheduled and charter sectors in San Diego collapsed.

The breaking point came when United States charter airlines put up new fares proposals which the scheduled airlines could not agree.

Charter airlines are worried that fares levels already agreed by the scheduled operators, backed by governments on both sides of the Atlantic, are too high and could put some of them out of business.

Mr Knut Hammarskjöld, director general of the International Air Transport Association, reacted to the breakdown by writing to governments in Europe, the United States and Canada, urging them to act swiftly to set fares in the absence of an airlines agreement to come into force on November 1.

He accused the United States charter airlines of presenting new proposals, "which were a complete breakdown from the tentative agreement previously developed and accepted by the majority."

His letter continued, "In the face of the governments' clear position in support of the need to reach agreement on minimum charter rates, it is difficult to understand the purpose behind the presentation of such clearly unacceptable proposals."

It was now even more urgent that governments got expeditiously into line with their undertakings to maintain order and economic profitability in the north Atlantic market, Mr Hammarskjöld added.

Governments are expected to convene a meeting quickly so that they set their own new tariff, which is expected to be the same as that agreed by the scheduled carriers in August. Under this, many fares were to be raised by around 10 per cent, to reflect the big rises that there have been since the beginning of the year in the price of fuel.

Behind the backing by the United States government of a higher fares policy is an anxiety to buttress the fortunes of the financially-ailing Pan American.

Ex-head of Sime Darby charged

Singapore, Oct. 4.—Mr Dennis William Plinder, former head of Sime Darby Holdings, one of the biggest companies in Singapore and Malaysia, was charged in court here with six counts of criminal breach of trust amounting to more than \$52.1m (about £32.00m).

A court spokesman said Mr Plinder, who was dismissed as chairman and managing director of the company last year, was allowed a personal bail of \$31m after he pleaded not guilty to all the charges. Mr Plinder was alleged to have committed the offences between February, 1970, and April, 1972.—Reuter.

Refrigerator makers face 12 months of stagnation

Britain's domestic refrigerator manufacturers are preparing to enter a 12-month period of negative growth with the prospect of redundancies within the industry.

The present economic climate has affected the domestic refrigerator market, although sales of all other domestic appliances are buoyant and Currys, the major retailer of appliance outlets, has had near record sales over the past month.

The market leader, British Domestic Appliances, of Peterborough, has already announced a reduction of 200 jobs among non-productive staff because of a drop in home and export orders.

Hoover and Electrolux have not yet had cuts in orders, but both companies admit that they will have to work harder to retain their share of the market in the coming year.

Electrolux is planning no increase in its export sales, which now account for 25 per cent of refrigerator production.

Hoover's output of refrigerator and vacuum cleaners has not been affected by the industrial dispute at the company's Cambuslang plant which has halted production of washing machines and driers there and at the plant in Merthyr Tydfil.

\$200m help for Grumman

New York, Oct. 4.—Nine American banks and the Iranian state bank have agreed to provide the giant Grumman Aircraft Corporation with a \$200m (about £82m) aid package, the company announced here.

Grumman, makers of the sophisticated F-14 fighter fighter, said yesterday that \$125m would be provided by United States banks and the remainder would be put up by the Iranian Bank.

Financial troubles at Grumman have been threatening production of the F-14 fighter and Iran has already ordered 80 of the supersonic planes, which can be used off aircraft carriers.

American banks cut off credit to Grumman two years ago after it suffered heavy losses in the F-14 programme. Last year the Senate refused to approve increased United States navy loans to help offset Grumman's more immediate cash problems.—Reuter.

IMF to prepare schemes for recycling funds from the oil producing countries

From Frank Vogl
Washington, Oct. 4

At the end of the annual meeting of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, the staff of the IMF was instructed to design new schemes by 1975 for official recycling of funds from oil producing countries.

A new Ministerial Council has been established within the IMF replacing the Committee of Twenty on monetary reform.

It held its first meeting yesterday, called on Dr Johannes Witteveen, managing director of the IMF to formulate proposals on recycling, on enlargement of IMF member quotas, on the problems of gold's role in the monetary system, and on the desirability of a link between development assistance and the distribution of Special Drawing Rights.

These should be presented to the next meeting of the council on January 15 and 16 in Washington.

Dr Witteveen stated at a press

conference that devising new recycling mechanisms "has become a matter of urgency", adding that this problem will be the first priority of the IMF staff.

Dr Witteveen said that it cannot be expected that the commercial banking system alone can cope with the recycling.

While the "best Germans and the Americans have indicated that markets can handle the recycling for at least the next 12 to 18 months, this is clearly not Dr Witteveen's view.

The IMF chief stressed that "official institutions will have to play a much greater role in the year ahead" in insuring that funds from oil producing countries go to those countries which have large payments deficits as a result of higher import costs.

Mr John Turner, the Canadian Minister of Finance, who has been elected the first chairman of the interim Ministerial Committee and who will serve in this position for two years, stated that the managing

INTERIM STATEMENT

S. Pearson & Son, Ltd.

Unaudited results of the Group for the half-year to 30th June, 1974

	1974	1973
	£000	£000
DIVIDEND		
The directors have declared an interim dividend on the ordinary share capital of 1.4p per share which, together with the tax credit of 0.68855p to which United Kingdom shareholders are entitled, is equivalent to a gross dividend of 2.08955p, compared with 2p last year. This dividend will be paid on 16th December, 1974 to shareholders on the register of members on 12th November, 1974. The directors propose that shareholders should be given the opportunity to receive shares in lieu of the cash dividend. Subject to the passing of the necessary resolution, the cash dividend will accordingly not be payable on shares in respect of which an election to receive shares in lieu of the dividend is received. Further details of the proposals will be posted to shareholders in due course.		
RESULTS		
Turnover, excluding that of Lazard Brothers & Co., Ltd. and investment and property income	88,977	75,817
Profit of the Group before taxation	8,532	13,213
Deduct proportion attributable to minority interests and pre-acquisition profit	2,721	3,968
Profit before taxation attributable to S. Pearson & Son, Ltd.	5,811	9,247
Total taxation (including overseas taxes 1963,000—1973 £648,000)	4,303	6,114
Deduct proportion attributable to minority interests and pre-acquisition profit	1,434	1,867
Net profit attributable to S. Pearson & Son, Ltd.	2,869	4,227
Dividends:		
1974	9	9
1973	947	947
Preference shares	1.4	1.4
Ordinary interim	0.68855	0.6
Tax credit	2.08955	2.0
	956	956
Profit retained	1,966	4,064
Earnings per ordinary share	4.34p	7.42p

Taxation for 1974 includes United Kingdom corporation tax at the assumed rate of 52 per cent compared with 47 1/2 per cent for the first half of 1973.

Low the markets moved

The Times index : 74.59 - 0.46
FT index : 191.5 - 0.5

Rises

actlans Bk	2p to 13 1/2p
tyroons	4p to 7 1/2p
ARM Hepba	2p to 25p
MIW	2p to 7 1/2p
longs	4p to 36p
MC	2 1/2p to 17 1/2p
ent. M. P.	2 1/2p to 17 1/2p

Falls

P	8 1/2p to 27 1/2p
Johns	2p to 11 1/2p
United	2p to 11 1/2p
Stellers	1 1/2p to 8 1/2p
Portland	6 1/2p to 14 1/2p
up Chem Ind	3p to 15 1/2p
Chap	1 1/2p to 16 1/2p

Three months' £100. Copper eased

£3.50 while LME silver advanced 2.75p. Coffee and cocoa futures were lower but sugar gained. London metal prices were 2.3p higher at 1.260.0.

Equities remain depressed.

Gilt-edged securities rallied.

THE POUND

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia \$	1.84	1.78
Austria Sch	45.75	42.50
Belgium Fr.	33.25	30.50
Canada \$	2.34	2.29
Denmark Kr.	14.50	14.10
France F.	6.55	6.25
Germany DM	6.25	6.05
Greece Dr.	71.50	69.00
Hongkong \$	11.85	11.50
Italy L.	1.65	1.57
Japan Yn	728.00	695.00
Netherlands Gld	6.35	6.15
Norway Kr.	13.05	12.70
Portugal Esc	69.90	62.50
Spain Ptas	166.50	158.00
Sweden Kr.	10.50	10.20
Switzerland Fr.	7.00	6.75
US \$	2.27	2.22
Yugoslavia Dr	39.50	37.00

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PERSONAL INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

Grouse

The proposals of the Labour Party to abolish all higher rate income tax relief on mortgage loan interest is arguably fair. Why should the individual who is wealthier than most effectively pay less for the same commodity—a house—than someone who does not enjoy the same level of income?

What is disturbing, however, is the prospect that the higher rate income tax relief will cease overnight. Although it is not yet clear whether the Labour Party proposes to abolish this slice of the relief at a blow, the widespread impression is that it seems very likely that this will happen.

Government would have allowed a grace period for people to adjust to the new terms. There are sufficient precedents for this: when the Labour Government originally abolished interest relief on all loans except mortgages (and others allied to property) in 1968, relief on existing loans was allowed to continue for several years.

Insurance

Looking after yourself if you're self-employed

If you work on your own—whether full-time or in addition to a normal job—it is up to you to work out what you need so far as insurance is concerned. Here are some points to bear in mind. First, you can probably contribute some of your "self-employed" earnings towards a supplementary pension. The maximum contribution you can make will depend on the amount of your earnings from your own business and any other earnings from a pensionable job, in the light of the various statutory limits.

any tax relief in respect of the premiums. Secondly, if you should be laid up for a long spell, once you have been receiving benefits continuously for a full fiscal year, they start to be taxed—as investment income.

Whether this will be possible will depend on what is involved. If, for instance, you have what amounts to a minor industry, quite clearly it is likely to be more appropriate for the insurance to be provided separately from your household insurance.

When you decide to take the pension (at any time between your sixtieth and seventieth birthdays), you can exchange part of the pension for a tax-free cash sum. The actual pension which you take will not count as investment income for tax purposes.

Obviously, if you have quite a large business of your own, special employer's liability insurance must be arranged. If, however, one person helps you in connexion with your work in your home from time to time, the insurers which write your household insurance may well be prepared to extend the third party section of your policy.

Here you should be able to obtain cover of one kind or another, although what will be best for you will depend on the type of business and how long it might take to get back to normal if the worst should happen.

In case you should be prevented from working because of ill-health, and would have no means of support apart from the various state benefits, it is sensible to fix up permanent health insurance.

If you work from home, the third party section of your household policy should be extended, so that your liability to visitors will be covered even though they may have called in connexion with your business.

Being in business on your own account (or having a sideline quite separate from your everyday employment) can be everybody's nightmare. But, even if yours is only a small business, almost certainly you will need to consider the question of insurance in one way or another.

Usually quite separate from the third party section in a household policy is a section which covers your personal liability (ie, liability unconnected with the house, car and so on) to others for personal injury or damage to their property.

Any liability in connexion with a business, trade or vocation is normally excluded from this policy. But, dependent on your work, it may be possible to arrange for this exclusion to be deleted.

Treat the above as no more than a guide to some of the more common forms of insurance which could save you from serious loss. To pursue the subject in more detail, it could be a good plan to discuss your whole enterprise with a reliable firm of insurance brokers.

Clearly, you do not want to be insured for every possible eventuality, but you will want to make sure that you are protected against the more serious losses which could occur.

John Drummond

Gold coin prices

Gold has substantially increased in popularity with both private and professional investors. To keep pace with this trend The Times from Tuesday onwards will publish the daily buying and selling prices of Kruggerands and old and new sovereigns. The prices will appear on the Financial News and Market Reports page under the heading "sterling-foreign exchange tables".

Prices also vary widely according to coin quality.

Taxation

The Revenue has ways of finding out...

Two weeks ago I discussed a few of the many powers given to tax officials by statute, which enable them to obtain information about taxpayers. In view of the interest shown by readers here are a few more. Individuals who render services to a business but are not employees of it can be tracked down under one of the powers in the Taxes Management Act 1970. The tax office can ask the proprietor or company to provide details of payments made for more than £15 without deduction of tax.

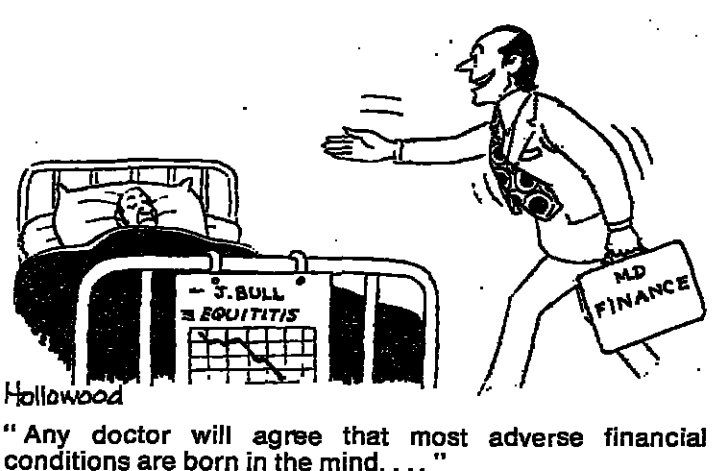
Also, a return, showing the gross earnings and the PAYE deductions of all employees, has to be submitted to the tax office annually by the employer. A non-business activity is not exempt from these rules. Organizations such as social clubs, golf clubs, professional and trade associations can be required to supply details of payments made for services rendered by non-employees.

When stocks and shares are acquired it is necessary to include the income in one's annual tax return and to state the fact of the acquisition by completing the section in the form headed "Chargeable assets acquired". However, it could be that the tax office knows about the purchase even before the individual has got around to sending in the tax return. How, you might ask, can this happen?

There is machinery for permitting the individual to apply against the need to supply particulars and against the penalty, and a number of cases have come before the courts. In a recent case a trust had been set up and the Revenue was exercising its wide discretion under section 453 of the Taxes Act 1970 by demanding that the trustee should supply a number of particulars relating to the trust.

The Revenue normally exercises this power sparingly, reserving it for extreme cases. While this particular power does not authorize the Revenue to probe into the taxpayer's non-business affairs it is able to do so under other provisions of the statute if he has not submitted the proper tax returns when asked to do so. But that is a cautionary tale for next week.

Vera Di Palma



"Any doctor will agree that most adverse financial conditions are born in the mind..."

Miracles a speciality for the finance physicians

Have you noticed that over the last year professional advisers have all gone mad on this financial planning thing? An ordinary old-fashioned insurance broker, solicitor, stockbroker or accountant is impossible to find. "There's no room for a specialist nowadays", they say airily. "Actually I regard myself as a sort of financial GP."

One does know what they mean. I can think of a lot of professional advisers who have been "regular ear, nose, and throat" surgeons in the financial sense—bending their clients' ears and leading them by the nose until they are prepared to swallow anything.

Unfortunately, however, in many cases the medicine has not worked too brilliantly and the patient is left with the vague feeling that prevention had been better than cure. The Moneygamesman, quick to spot a trend as always, has therefore opened his own brand new financial medical school, where the professional adviser can take a refresher course to brush up his investment techniques—miracle cures a speciality.

He looked forward with fervent anticipation to the success of the Moneygamesman's next venture—a permanent financial health insurance policy, covering an investor against the expense of having to employ a money doctor to sort out his finances at any time during a period of 12 months.

Francis Kinsman

Retired? Then your house should be paying you an income.

If you're retired and facing financial pressures due to inflation, you'll be glad to know that you can put your house to work for you.

How? With a Home Income Plan, with tax benefits confirmed in this year's Finance Bill and endorsed by all the major political Parties. This uses the current value of your house to give you a regular income for life. And in some cases a lump sum as well. You keep your house. You and your heirs continue to benefit from any rising property prices, and in some circumstances you can convert these rises into additional income.

If you're over 65, or 70 if you are a lady (or if there are two of you, both should be at least 75) and your house is worth at least £10,000, fill in the coupon for full details.

Form for requesting a Home Income Plan. Fields include Name, Address, Telephone, Date of Birth, and Estimated House Value. Contact: Julian Gibbs Home Pension Planning Ltd, 4 Curzon Place London W1Y 7AA.

Unit trust performance

Table showing unit trust performance for various funds. Columns include Fund Name, A, B, and C. Funds listed include Garmore British, Vav Capital, Piccadilly Inc/Grow, Brown Shipley, Archway Capital F, Erik Life Balance, Family Fund, Rowan Securities, Slater Walker Gr, Friars House M, Quadrant F, Sebog Capital, Vav Inc Assets, Kleinwort Benson F, L & C Unit Trust, Wickmoor, Emblem Fund F, Glen Fund, British Life, Profitic, Marlborough, Weller Growth F, Cabot F, Nat Group Prov, Buckingham, National Fund, BIF Second, National Secur, National West Gr, M & G Sec Gen, Allied First, Ionian Growth F, Electrical & Indust, Target Thrift, M & G General, National Security, Canlife General, G and A, National Consolid, Jessel Capital.

Unit trust performance (continued)

Table showing unit trust performance for various funds. Columns include Fund Name, A, B, and C. Funds listed include Tyndall Capital M, Edil Samuel Capital, Jessel General, Jasset Sec Leads, Target Equity, S & P General, Trustee Savings Bank, Lloyds Bank First, Ariel, S & P Ehor General, Union Cap, Prudential, National Domestic, Guardian, Vindex Canyuge, S & P Scotshares, Abbey General, Union Capital, Equitas, Union General, Great Winchester M, CIP Growth, Barbican, Schroder General, Trades Union, Oceanic Growth, Private Portfolio.

Unit trust performance (continued)

Table showing unit trust performance for various funds. Columns include Fund Name, A, B, and C. Funds listed include S & P Scotfields, Jessel Extra Inc, Hill Sam High Yd, Meridian High Yield, National High Inc, M & G Conv Income, Piccadilly Extra Inc, Target Income, S & P Income, Union Extra Inc, Clyde High Income, Vav High Income, National West Inc, P & M Income, Vav High Income, Allied High Income, Key Income, Tyndall Nat Inc M, S & P Ehor High Ret, National High Inc, Allied Equity Inc, Oceanic High Inc, S & P Income, S & P Income, Crescent High Distr, Bridge Income, S & P Income, Lloyds Bank Third, Hill Samuel Income, S & P High Yield, Morgan Gren Inc, Abbey Income, Schroder Income F, Tyndall Income M, Trident Income, Hambro Income, Union Income, Framlington Inc, National High Yield, National High Yield, S & P Income Prior, S & P Scot Income.

Car insurance

Don't rely too much on a temporary cover note

Renewing one's motor policy may seem quite a straightforward operation. After checking that the right level of no-claim discount has been allowed, you may simply have to write a cheque—usually for a larger amount than in the previous year.

avoid difficulties if the premium has been paid before expiry but the new certificate has not been received. If you decide not to renew your insurance, because you intend to take out fresh insurance with another insurer, even this temporary certificate will not give you the evidence required by law.

Unfortunately, a number of brokers suppress the insurers' renewal notices and send one of their own. There have been stories of brokers adding on a fee for themselves to the premium required by the insurers. But I am more concerned about what a renewal notice provides in addition to the request for payment.

work, for instance, you used to live in Cornwall, but will spend most of your time near the head office in Croydon, keeping your Cornish house for holidays and letting, do not leave your insurers with the impression that you are still living in Cornwall. They must be told of the move—despite the fact that it would be very much cheaper, in terms of premium, for you to keep them in the dark and continue to use your Cornish address.

Do not forget that the temporary certificate is not extending your cover under your policy for a fortnight so that all will be well if you should forget to pay the premium before the expiry date of the insurance. This is because a motor policy does not have 15 days of grace which are to be found in some other types of insurance.

Has there been a serious deterioration in your health over the past year, or do you now suffer from some mental or physical defect of which the insurers have not been advised? Painful as it may be to tell your insurers, you have a duty to do so.

Francis Kinsman

Also, if you have run foul of the law by being convicted of some motoring offence, tell your insurers. Of course, they are likely to know already if the conviction is in connexion with an accident for which a claim has been made. But it is surprising how many convictions do not involve a claim. After all, you don't have to have an accident to be convicted of a drink/driving offence. Fortunately, however, your insurers are unlikely to want to know how many parking tickets you collected during the year!

Advertisement for Lawson High Yield Fund. Features a large '16.5% PA' graphic and text describing the fund's performance and investment strategy. Includes contact information for Lawson High Yield Fund.

EDITED BY MARGARET STONE

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Outlooks weaken • Looking at some fallen stars

September's week was experienced... with expectations... of the market... looking at some fallen stars...

insurance—for preference all three rolled up together in one group... and property, is falling at the same time, their solvency margins are eroded...

Interim setback at S Pearson shows 35pc drop to £8.5m

By Tony May A drop of 35 per cent to £8.5m in the interim pre-tax profits of the S. Pearson & Son publishing, industrial and financial group...

group's year, and in addition, the Pearson Longman side reported rapid rises in the cost of newspaper and other over-heads...

Monsanto's striking recovery efforts

By David Mott Monsanto Ltd, British subsidiary of the United States chemical and plastics combine, is keeping up the recovery efforts...

Stock markets Late signs of rally

Mr Healey's hints of a reflationary budget if Labour wins the election came too late for the equity market, where prices suffered another depressing day...

Property loss hits first half at Cons Commercial

The half-year results of Consolidated Commercial, a London-based food manufacturers and distributors, which also takes in property development and finance, have been cut back...

UDT's £15m loan stock issue flops

United Dominions Trust's £15m issue of 16 per cent convertible unsecured loan stock 1978 has failed...

Latest dividends

Table with columns: Company (and par value), Dividend, Year, Prev year total, Year's Prev year

Third-quarter earnings at ITT likely to drop 11pc

Resulting from inflationary pressures as well as contractual problems in one Latin American operation, estimates of third-quarter earnings at International Telephone & Telegraph Corporation indicate a fall of about 11 per cent...

Winds of change in financial planning

In the 12 months he has been working with Antony Gibbs (Personal Financial Planning), managing director Harry Kinloch has rubbed one person, his secretary...

kind of client will not be the prime marketing target. As a step towards moving over towards a more fee-oriented structure, the revised Antony Gibbs (PFF) has abolished the commission system for its staff...



Harry Kinloch, managing director of Antony Gibbs (PFF): logical restructuring.

Advance Laundries reverse

Commenting on a fall in first-half profits from £861,000 to £515,000, the board of Advance Laundries, a subsidiary of B.E.T. Group, says that things should improve in the second half of the year...



Mr John Parkin, chairman and managing director of Holt Products.

Opening slip by Beatson, Clark

The leap in demand for bottles and other glass containers took Beatson, Clark to a record profit of £913,000 last year, but the interim profits are now down 11 per cent...

Advertisement for CANADIAN OVERSEAS PACKAGING INDUSTRIES LIMITED, Preliminary Profit Announcement for the year to June 30, 1974.

Miller (Textiles) mid-term cheer

A new high level of profit was attained in the half-year to August 13 by Glasgow-based F. Miller (Textiles), whose main customer for its children's and women's wear is Marks & Spencer...

Disappointing half at Holt Products

Although the profits of Holt Products put on 12 per cent to £231,000 pre-tax in the half to July 31, Mr John Parkin and his board say this growth rate is less than they had hoped for...

Associates swell Century Sees

In spite of bearing the "full weight" of high interest rates and finance charges for a new acquisition, profits of the "old" Century Sees are expected to rise up by £10,000 to £22,000 in the year to March 31...

House sales uplift at Orme Devs

News for shareholders of Orme Developments from Mr. A. W. H. Smith, chairman, at the annual meeting was that the level of borrowing had been reduced since the balance sheet date and a further fall expected...

Hunt & Moscrop

Out of turnover expanded 16 per cent to £5m pre-tax profits of Hunt & Moscrop (Middleton) the textile and paper-making machinery group, jumped 28 per cent to a record £487,000 in the period to June 30...

T. Line tumbles

The oil crisis and the three-day week affected all sections of the business at Thomson T Line Carriage and the interim results are down from £264,000 to £22,000, while on net profits of £10,000, against £143,000, the interim dividend is held at 3.9p...

Pullman brisk

All sectors enjoy "very strong demand", reports Mr. J. M. Pullman, chairman of R. & J. Pullman, garment and textiles group, and turnover and production figures are increasing in line...

Sketchley in Europe

Although no financial details are disclosed, the Sketchley cleaning group has acquired a 95 per cent stake in Servibell in Belgium, which has net assets at December 31 of £162,000...

Tilley down 46pc

Hit by both the effects of the three-day week and the total stoppage by the UWC strike in Northern Ireland, the full year profits of Tilley Lamp to June 30, show a 46 per cent decline from £154,000 pre-tax to £83,000, adjusted for the interim results are down from £264,000 to £22,000...

Briefly

- LAUGHTON & SONS Turnover for half year, £3.2m (£2.6m). Taxable profits, £269,000 (£239,000).
- MILFORD DOCKS Interim sales, £415,000 (£373,000) and taxable profit, £24,000 (£22,000).
- GOUGH BROTHERS For half year taxable profits £104,000 (£119,000) from turnover of £3.5m (£2.9m). Dividend up to 46p (1.4p) from earnings of 1.5p (2.1p).
- MODERN ENGINEERS, BRISTOL (£116,000); sales, £2.9m (£1.6m); dividend, 0.77p (0.75p).
- DWA PLANTATIONS In a recommended deal, D. C. K. Nurseries are making an offer for the shares of D. W. A. Plantations not already owned.
- ALDERMAN SECURITIES £258,000 (£220,000); provision for disputed insurance claim, £80,000 (nil); final dividend 1p making 2p (0.8p).
- EUROPEAN ARAB BANK Company has accepted participation of three new banks from Europe (Japan). These are Credit Suisse, Fuji Bank and Industrial Bank of Japan.
- G. STIBBE Mr W. Mackey, receiver and manager, reports no funds are available for redemption of share registration facilities.
- GLASGOW BROKERS MERGER George Morton and Todd, Wheat & Munro to merge. Morton will stop trading on October 25 and business incorporated with T.W. & M.
- CANADIAN O'SEAS PACKAGING Pre-tax profits for 1973-74, \$11.2m (\$4.8m). Attributable profit \$9.02m (\$4.22m).
- N ELECTRIC DICTAPHONE NE has withdrawn offer to purchase Dictaphone shares.

Vavasseur trusts change hands

The Vavasseur unit trust group has just been sold to Henderson Administration along with the Vavasseur Financial Services Division. First Investors.

bedevilled the parent company have left their mark and the move to Henderson should be in the interests of unitholders, not to mention the private clients of First Investors.

Advertisement for HOLT'S (Automotive Chemicals, Accessories and Repair Products) Interim Report for the half-year ended 31st July 1974.

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Issues & Loans

Computerizing bond trading

The desirability of computerizing international bond trading will come under sharp scrutiny at meetings between representatives of Euxex and Arzel and the executive committee of the Association of International Bond Dealers in Paris later this month, according to informed sources in Brussels, quoted by Reuters.

Eurobond prices (midday indicators)

Table listing Eurobond prices for various countries and maturities, including columns for Bid and Offer prices.

Foreign Exchange

The dollar under pressure

Already easier at the outset, the dollar came under a fair amount of pressure during the afternoon on the foreign exchange market following a 1 per cent prime rate cuts by two major United States banks. Higher September unemployment figures in America also affected the dollar.

Spot Position of Sterling

Marked rates for Sterling: London 100/10, New York 100/10, Hong Kong 100/10, etc.

Forward Levels

Forward levels for Sterling: 1 month 100/10, 3 months 100/10, 6 months 100/10, etc.

Commodities

Cash tin plunges £295 a tonne

A sharp setback in TIN prices was seen on the London Metal Exchange yesterday. At an easy close cash metal was £295 down and three months £130 lower.

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Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

Large table listing various financial products, including authorized units, insurance, and offshore funds, with columns for Bid and Offer prices.

Recent Issues

Table listing recent issues of bonds and securities, including titles and prices.

Mentmore rally

After six months' trading, Mentmore Manufacturing has managed a recovery in taxable profits with a rise from £205,000 to £263,000 on sales of £2,933m (£2,344m). Shareholders will receive a dividend of 0.25p, against 0.23p.

Bank Base Rates

Table showing bank base rates for various banks, including Barclays Bank, FNCB, and Nat Westminister.

Discount market

Credit yesterday flowed unevenly into the London discount market. Early on, the market looked set for another comfortable session. There was no calling of any significant bills and money was available in the region of 9 per cent.

Money Market Rates

Table showing money market rates, including Treasury Bill yields and bank rates.

The Times Share Indices

Table showing share indices for various sectors, including the FTSE 100 and other market indices.

Rudolf Wolff in consortium that may set up an exchange in Hongkong

Hongkong is continuing actively to explore the possibility of establishing a commodity exchange. Mr Derek Jones, the acting financial secretary speaking in his capacity as chairman of the steering group on commodity exchanges said yesterday that the following examination of the proposals submitted by six groups seeking to set up an exchange the government had decided to begin further negotiations with one particular consortium.

Wall Street

New York, Oct 4. Stocks on the New York stock exchange closed mostly lower today after a late rally attempt fell apart.

Silver 20c limit up

New York, Oct 4.—COMEX SILVER. Futures for the 20 cent limit up, closed at 20.00, down from 19.75.

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